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OUR DIARY FOR 1898.

THE foreign edition of THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS DIARY for 1898 is now being bound and will be issued next week. The home copies will be distributed as soon as possible afterwards. The treatise on the art of pharmacy which will be a leading feature of this DIARY, will contain much new information never before published, and from beginning to end will be found to be of great practical value to all pharmacists. The reference information is fuller and more complete than ever, and the advertisements will be found to be a wonderfully varied and comprehensive collection. These are contributed by 561 different firms, and all the goods advertised are carefully indexed. This number of advertisers exceeds by 30 our previous record, which was the DIARY for 1897. It is impossible to imagine any chemist and druggist to whom such an encyclopædia of information will not be useful occasionally, and most chemists will refer to it "every day and all the year round." A subscription to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, which is in force in the month of December, entitles the subscriber to a free copy of this work, which will be sent to him carriage or postage free in any part of the earth. Extra copies can be had by subscribers for 2s. 6d. Non-subscribers (if they are chemists) can get copies for 3s. 6d.



A MEETING OF THE IDRIS SHAREHOLDERS is reported on p. 790.

SOME PARTICULARS and a portrait of the late Mr. H. G. Hotchkiss are given on p. 792.

W. SCHACHT & Co., of Finsbury, have made an arrangement with their creditors (p. 790).

DISPENSERS OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS have at last formed themselves into an association (p. 779).

THE NEW TRANSVAAL IMPORT-DUTIES are to press rather heavily upon the drug-trade there (p. 796).

BRADFORD CHEMISTS have conferred upon the advantages of home manufacture of galenicals (p. 784).

MR. DOTT joins issue with Dr. Thresh in regard to the significance of nitric nitrogen in water (p. 797).

AN ARTICLE descriptive of the present position of the quinine-manufacturing industry in Java appears on p. 801.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL COUNCIL PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE is urging the scheduling of carbolic acid (p. 796).

AN AGREEMENT between a public analyst and Somerset House chemists in regard to a milk-sample is reported on p. 779.

THE DEATH OF DR. EVANS, the celebrated Americo-Parisian dentist, is reported by our Paris correspondent (p. 781).

BIRMINGHAM DISPENSING does not come too well out of the analytical test to which the local authorities recently put it (p. 778).

IN addition to a page of legal notes addressed to correspondents (p. 810), we print numerous replies on other questions (p. 811).

MR. GLYN-JONES, MR. DAY, and a number of other correspondents keep the P.A.T.A. controversy going in lively fashion this week (p. 806).

THE RECTIFICATION OF THE REGISTER OF CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS brings a complaint from a continental chemist, upon which we deal with the whole matter (p. 795).

THE DRUG-MARKETS have been rather quiet this week, and the chief feature of interest upon which we comment is the advance of about 20 per cent. in the price of cinchona (p. 801).

THE PROPRIETOR OF WALLACE'S SPECIFIC has had to pay 62% for selling it without the formalities necessary for acointine preparations. Interesting chemical evidence was given (p. 787).

MESSRS. BRAITHWAITE AND WHITE report to the Pharmaceutical Society that suppository-moulds are far from accurate, and that suppositories, as generally supplied, are in the same category (p. 783).

THE ATTEMPT of the proprietors of Triticumina to get an injunction against Triticine has not been successful, and the first-named article has been removed from the register of trade-marks on the ground that it is a descriptive title (p. 788).

THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY gave his views on the proposed intermediate examination, on the old controversies preceding the Act of 1868, and on other pharmaceutical subjects at a dinner of the Western Chemists of London (p. 784).

A QUEBEC FIRM OF WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS have appealed to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council here against the refusal of the Supreme Court of Canada to allow their appeal on the question of their responsibility for an alleged error in supplying a drug (p. 783).



CONDUCTED BY RICHARD J. MOSS, F.C.S., F.I.C.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will form the subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis. The mixture is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope, not a stamp merely) will be received up to Wednesday, November 24, and the samples will be forwarded immediately.

Students' reports will be received up to Saturday, December 4. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

The report on the last competition will be inserted next week.



Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Inquest on a Hull Chemist. Carbolic Poisoning.

An inquest was held on Saturday last, at the St. George's Cocoa Rooms, Hull, on the body of Mr. Neil Reid (38), chemist and druggist, of 5 Charles Street, Hull, whose death had occurred on the previous morning.

Dr. James Savage said he had known deceased since childhood, and had dined with him on the previous Sunday, which was the last time he saw him alive. He had heard that since he got some money—that is, since his mother's death—Reid had been drinking. He had appeared to witness to be muddled, though rather from the effect of drugs than drink. He was called on Friday morning to deceased's shop, and found him in the room behind, half lying across a couch, with one boot off and the other on. He was quite dead, and had been so for four or five hours. There was on the table a 20-oz. measure, smelling of carbolic acid, and a gallon tin of the same acid on the floor. There was also a similar-sized tin containing spirit of wine, 60 o.p., which some people drank when they could not get whisky. A post-mortem was conducted by witness. There was evidence of alcoholism in the system, and 32 ounces of fluid in the stomach, which included carbolic acid. The cause of death was carbolic poisoning. Witness believed that a man under the influence of liquor might readily mistake one tin for the other. Deceased had taken about two wineglassfuls of the acid. Witness could imagine no cause why deceased should have attempted to commit suicide. He was fairly well off financially, and gave no indication of suicidal tendency, being, on the contrary, of a cheerful disposition.

In reply to the jury, witness said that the smell of the two liquids was different; but they were somewhat similar in colour.

Rose Hannah Whitforth said she last week rented the house above his shop from deceased, who was to lodge with her husband and herself. On Thursday night deceased returned home partially intoxicated. The tins of spirit of wine and carbolic acid, respectively, had been standing in the kitchen during the time of her removal, and on Tuesday she put them both under the counter in the shop. On Thursday deceased asked for the tins, which she showed him. They were both labelled with the names of their contents. She did not again see him until the next morning, when, passing his door, which was partly open, she saw him lying dressed upon his bed, and in an unnatural position. She summoned Dr. Savage. Deceased had been in a muddled condition the whole week, and his assistant left him on the previous Saturday. The shop during this time was frequently closed.

The Coroner thought the evidence pointed to accident, and the jury concurring, a verdict of "Misadventure" was returned.

Honoured in his own Country.

As mentioned last week, it has occurred to the London School Board to name a new boys' school in Faraday Street, Walworth, "The Michael Faraday School," and the Royal Institution has presented a replica of its bust of Faraday by Matthew Noble to the Board for erection in the hall. The bust was unveiled on Monday in presence of a large company, over which General Moberley, vice-chairman of the School Board, presided. Sir James Crichton Browne represented the Royal Institution, and spoke of Faraday's achievements. The bust is surmounted by a brass plate bearing the following inscription:—

MICHAEL FARADAY,

Natural Philosopher, D.C.L., F.R.S.,
Born at Newington, Surrey, Sept. 22, 1791.

He was a patient student, an eloquent expounder, and a brilliant
illustrator of the laws of nature.

Fullerian Professor of Chemistry
in the

Royal Institution of Great Britain, 1833 to 1867.

Faraday's noblest monument is his "Experimental
Researches in Electricity and Magnetism,"
from 1831 to 1851.

He died at Hampton Court Green, Aug. 25, 1867, and was
interred in Highgate Cemetery.

On the suggestion of Sir J. C. Browne, the headmaster of the school agreed to set apart one day every year in memory of the school's patron saint, when the children will have Faraday's achievements explained to them by some competent teacher.

Birmingham Dispensing Tested.

In his quarterly report on the health of the city, Dr. Alfred Hill, medical officer of health for Birmingham, says that of twenty-four samples of medicine of five different kinds five were certified as adulterated, and the others were nearly, or quite, in accordance with the prescription. One sample of camphor liniment contained only half the proper quantity of camphor, and the vendor was fined 1*l.* and 1*s.* costs. One of four samples of iodine liniment was deficient 16 per cent. in the iodide of potassium ordered by the P.P. Three of four magnesia-mixtures contained from 462 to 485 gr. of sulphate of magnesia in the 8-oz. mixture ordered, but one contained only 441 instead of 480 gr. This was, Dr. Hill suggests, probably due to the dispenser supplying an avoirdupois ounce of 437.5 gr. instead of an apothecaries' ounce of 480 gr. Three of the four quinine-mixtures contained a slight excess of sulphate of quinine; one contained an excess of 18 per cent., which Dr. Hill considers too much to be passed as quinine, and the vendor was accordingly cautioned. In a sodium-bromide mixture the prescription ordered 180 gr. of bromide of sodium to be present in an 8-oz. mixture, and from 160 to 178 gr. were present in the four samples. The deficiencies were probably due to some extent to the tendency of sodium bromide to take up water, and to the B.P. in allowing a slightly damp salt to be used; but the first-named sample, Dr. Hill adds, was much too low, and in this instance the vendor was also cautioned. From another portion of the report we learn that several samples of milk were adulterated with boric acid, and in others formic aldehyde had been used as a preservative.

The Analysis of Milk.

Mr. A. W. Stokes, F.C.S., F.L.C., the public analyst to the vestry of St. Luke's, Middlessex, in presenting his quarterly report on Tuesday evening, said he had analysed fifty samples submitted to him by the inspectors under the Food and Drugs Act, and found all but five samples of milk and two of butter genuine. Several samples of disinfectants were in the total. With regard to one of the samples of milk he certified it to contain 9 per cent. of added water, but the vendor disputed it, and took his third share to the Somerset House analysts. Their certificate was "Not less than 9 per cent. of added water." Mr. Stokes added:—"Strange to say, no part of their analysis of the decomposed sample agreed with mine on the fresh milk. I have noticed the same disagreement on previous occasions, showing how little reliance can be placed upon decomposed milk."

The B.P. not Recognised in Monmouthshire.

In his report to the County Council of Monmouthshire, Mr. Thompson, the county analyst, observes: "It will be noticed that for several quarters we have not had any drug samples taken. This arises from the fact of the great difficulty, if not absolute failure, to obtain convictions owing to some of the magisterial benches in our county not being satisfied with the validity of the British Pharmacopœia as a standard. I notice week by week that convictions are sustained in various parts of the country upon the Pharmacopœia standard, but I think if you would order some samples to be taken by the inspectors we ought, in common fairness, to obtain convictions in those cases where drugs and medicines are not as prescribed in the Pharmacopœia."

Public Dispensers Combining.

Meetings of public dispensers have recently been held with a view of bringing about a union of dispensers to public institutions. The first meeting was held on November 2 at the Session House, Clerkenwell, and the second on November 9 at Trinity Church School, Gray's Inn Road. At the second meeting Mr. Jones, Holborn, was voted to the chair, and Mr. Welford, who had started the agitation, explained the objects sought. It was agreed that all public dispensers should be eligible for admission to this Association, but not chemists' assistants, who were politely referred to their own special organisation. One of the main objects of the Association was stated to be the possible increase in dispensers' salaries. Mr. Welford said he had interviewed the secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, and had received his assurance that they would be acknowledged as soon as they could be recognised as a body and adopted constitutional methods and means. Mr. Welford was elected chairman, Mr. Donnan treasurer, and an executive of six members, representing hospitals, infirmaries, and out-door dispensaries, were chosen. An entrance-fee of 1s. was agreed to.

A third meeting was held on November 15, at 112 Westminster Bridge Road. About thirty persons attended this meeting. The general feeling now seemed to be that it would be desirable to confine the membership to Poor-law dispensers, and this will probably be the outcome.

A Fertilisers Act for Jersey.

Dr. W. Duret Aubin, author of the Jersey Pharmacy Act, has told the Royal Jersey Agricultural Society that he is preparing a Bill dealing with the sale of artificial manures on the lines of the English Act.

Syphon Accident.

A 12 years' old boy in Guernsey last week was carrying a syphon of soda out of doors, and put it on a step to rest himself, when it suddenly exploded with a loud report. The lad was severely cut about the face by fragments of flying glass.

A Jersey Medical Society.

A Bill for the incorporation of the Jersey Medical Society has been presented to the Jersey Parliament. The Society consists of twenty-nine members, and has funds in hand amounting to some 300*l*. Deputy Duret Aubin says an Act of Incorporation would enable the Society (of which

he is one of the Vice-Presidents) to acquire realty, receive donations from charitable or grateful persons, &c.

Poisonous Drug Administration.

The Lincolnshire Society for the Prevention of the Administration of Poisonous Drugs to Horses contemplate soliciting legislative control of the sale of poisonous drugs. Probably the fact that the past year has been an expensive one to the Society owing to prosecutions is the cause of this departure.

A Herbalists' Hop-ale.

At Whitehaven on November 11, George Henry Lamb, herbalist, was summoned for selling hop-ale without a retail licence. Mr. William Henry Burge, one of the senior analysts at the Government Laboratory, stated that the sample analysed contained 4.1 per cent of proof spirit. Mr. Atter, defendant's solicitor, said that a sample of the same beer analysed by Mr. Kitchin was found to contain only 1.73 per cent. of proof spirit, which was within the Act. The Bench convicted and imposed a fine of 40s.

A Dismantled Chemical Company's Rates.

At Gateshead Police Court, on November 11, the Northumbrian Chemical Company were summoned for the payment of 118*l*. 15s. for poor rates. The defence was that the premises were unoccupied. For the overseers it was alleged that the United Alkali Company were paying the Northumbrian Company 2,000*l*. a year not to do any work. This, it was replied, was a mistake. The United Alkali Company had paid that annual sum or something like it to take over the Northumbrian Company's contracts. Last March, however, they bought the whole of the plant, and were allowed till December to remove it. Ultimately, the Bench refused to issue a warrant for the rate.

The Co-operative Cough-mixture.

The five months' old child of William and Annie Wardle of Hayfield, was found dead in bed last week, and an inquest was held on Saturday. The child had a cold, and a pennyworth of cough-mixture was purchased from the Co-operative Stores. The manager of the stores said $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of the mixture would be given for a penny. It was an ordinary cough-mixture, and there were no directions on the bottle. He should have told the parents, had they asked, not to give the child the mixture on sugar. Dr. Ashurst said the child died from a fit either caused or contributed to by the administration of narcotics. He suggested that the cough-mixture sold should be labelled, specifying the doses, and stating "Fatal in cases of bronchitis." The Coroner said the mixture was doubtless all right for its proper use. They did not find fault with it, but they thought it should be labelled. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, and expressed the opinion that the cough-mixture should be labelled. Dr. Ashurst said that when a Co-operative Society retailed the same article as a chemist they should take the same care with it.

Is he a Druggist?

Henry Fry was charged at Worship Street Police Court on Saturday, with stealing three watches from as many individuals in London. Fry refused to give his address, but said he was a druggist. He was committed for trial, and at the County of London Sessions on Tuesday was sentenced to twenty months' hard labour.

Is Methylated Spirit a Poison?

The Magistrate at the West London Police Court was puzzled by this question on Monday, when a woman was brought before him on a charge of attempted suicide with methylated spirit. He said women took methylated spirit to get drunk, and he could hardly convict for attempting to commit suicide, unless the quantity the prisoner took was calculated to destroy life. Dr. Jackson, the divisional police surgeon, said methylated spirit was recorded as a poison, and placed under the head of alcohol. Mr. Lane (the Magistrate): Have you any idea how much will destroy life? Dr. Jackson: There is no specified quantity that I know of. Mr. Lane, having expressed the idea that the prisoner took the spirits as a rapid and concentrated machine for getting drunk, remanded her for a week.

A Serious Charge.

Leoni Tomasso (33), a patent-medicine proprietor, of 22 Stockwell Road, Brixton; James Charles Ady (31), physician and surgeon, of 84 Pollock Road, New Kent Road; Jacques Mindisda Costa (21), jeweller's clerk, of 31 Albert Road, Regent's Park; and Marguerite Barron (aged 20), a needlewoman, of 29 Kellyon Road, Clapham, were charged at the South-Western Police Court on November 11 with being concerned together in performing an illegal operation upon the said Marguerite Barron, at 18 Featherstone Buildings, Holborn, on November 1, 2, 5, and 6. The female prisoner was too unwell to be able to appear. Mr. Horace Smith remanded the others.

Chemist and Doctors Committed.

Francis Wardale (23), chemist, 23 West Ham Lane, Stratford, George Walters, described as a doctor, and Neville Shorthouse, of 107 Gower Street, physician, again appeared at Lambeth Police Court on Wednesday, when further evidence was taken in support of the charges of illegal practices preferred against them. The prisoners, who reserved their defence, were committed for trial, the Magistrate offering to accept bail.

Football.

A match was played on Saturday, November 12, at Manchester, between teams representing the Northern College of Pharmacy (Clayton's) and the Manchester College of Pharmacy (Turner's). Turner's kicked off with wind in their favour, but the game soon went to the advantage of the Northern, who simply walked round their opponents. At half-time the score was: Clayton's, 3; Manchester, 0. In the second half Clayton's did just as they liked, finally winning by 7 goals to nil. The winning team were Sykes, Hughes (captain), Killon, Brown, Mackenzie, Brayne, Jones, Morgan, Coates, Worrall, Freer.

The Pharmaceutical Football Club played Muter's team on Saturday last at Balham. Muter's excellent forward combination was effectively met by the strong defence of their opponents, Jones and Happold (the backs) and Prescott (in goal) showing very smart play. Owen and Merrikin, of the Pharmaceutical forwards, played a very fast and spirited game. The result was a decisive victory for the Pharmaceuticals by 5 to 0. Teams.—Pharmaceutical: Prescott (goal); Jones and Happold (backs); Webster, Nelson, and J. Evans (half-backs); Day, Merrikin, Owen (centre), Durbin, and R. B. Warren (forwards). Muter's: Murray (goal); Thompson and Hershall (backs); Campion, Windermere, and Hill (half-backs); Walton, May, Coles, Smith, and Richardson (forwards).



Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Fight Off

We understand that the libel-action commenced by Mr. Robinson against Dr. McWalter, founded on a letter written by the latter previous to the Council election, has been settled without the assistance of her Majesty's judges.

Next-door Responsibility.

At the Belfast Quarter Sessions on Friday an action was brought by Mr. Robert Morrow, pharmaceutical chemist, 25 Corn Market, against Messrs. William McCammond & Son, builders, to recover 2*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*, the value of a number of incandescent gas-mantles, a bracket, and some globes, which plaintiff alleged were broken by the defendants' workmen whilst they were engaged in effecting some repairs in an adjoining house. The defence was a denial of carelessness and irresponsibility for the accident was pleaded. Plaintiff's counsel quoted two cases bearing on the question, in one of

which, he said, a dentist sued a manufacturer for damages resulting from the throbbing of the machinery of the manufactory; and in the other damages had been obtained by the National Telephone Company against a defendant for disturbing their plant by certain electrical-machinery which he had erected. His Honour said it was necessary to prove negligence. He held that in this case such negligence had been proved, and granted a decree for the full amount claimed.

Jostling a Constable.

At the Dublin Police Courts on Friday last Samuel McCreery, druggist, aged 36, was charged with obstructing the police by jostling a constable. According to the evidence the accused endeavoured to induce the constable to release a youth arrested for playing pitch-and-toss, but in turn was himself arrested. The magistrate imposed a fine of 2*l.*, or in default a month's imprisonment.

New Eyelids.

Last week, at Dublin, the unusual operation was performed of grafting a pig's eyelid on a man whose eyesight was threatened from ophthalmia.

Paying for the Jubilee Jinks.

At Dublin, on Friday last, Mr. Justice Boyd, with the members of the City Corporation, sat in the Four Courts and heard a number of applications for compensation for the damage done to property in Dublin on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. The following claims from chemists were considered:—Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson, who claimed 26*l.* 4*s.* for injury to their Grafton Street branch, were awarded 21*l.*; the Apothecaries' Hall, Mary Street, received 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; and Mr. John P. Lapham, Mary Street, 6*l.*

The Belfast Chemists and the Coroner.

"M.P.S.I." writes a temperate letter to the *Belfast News Letter* in reference to the charges made against chemists by the coroner of that city. "M.P.S.I." says he is intimate with every pharmacist in the city, and he denies the allegation of counter-prescribing. They have no desire to compete against the medical men, but at times they are called on for draughts for temporary relief, which it would be cruel to refuse. Though, he says, chemists do not prescribe, and have no wish to do so, a large number of doctors do their own compounding.

Lismore and Pay More.

The Local Government Auditor has drawn the attention of the Lismore Guardians to some of the bills of the drug-contractor which were found incorrect. The contractor should, he said, be cautioned. The Auditor commented on the high price paid by the Guardians for linseed meal—viz., 2*d.* per lb. In Kilkenny Union he observed the same contractor supplied linseed meal at 10*d.* per stone, or 6*s.* 8*d.* per cwt., instead of 18*s.* 8*d.* as charged by him to the Lismore Union. He asked for an explanation.

Business Movements.

"The Arklow Medical Hall" is the latest addition to the thriving little town on the Wicklow coast.

Messrs. Richard Smith & Co. (Limited), wholesale drug, oil, and colour merchants, 69 to 71 William Street, Limerick, are removing to Sarsfield Street and Honan's Quay in the same city.

Mr. Dowell's medical hall, Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, is announced to come under the hammer of the public auctioneer. A report of the tragic death of the late proprietor appeared in a recent issue of the *C. & D.*

Pharmaceutical Photographer.

Mr. Wyatt, L.P.S.I., Thomas Street, Dublin, was a successful exhibitor at the annual conversazione held last week by the city of Dublin Y.M.C.A. Camera Club, having obtained a silver medal in each of two classes. Mr. Wyatt's slides dealt chiefly with views in Connemara.

A Princely Donation.

The Irish Agricultural Society has passed a hearty vote of thanks to Sir Henry Cochrane, director of Messrs. Thacker &

Hoffe's wholesale drug and chemical concern, Dublin, for his "patriotic and princely donation of 5,000*l.* to the funds of the Society."

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

The following are official announcements which we have received from the Secretary of the Society:—

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.—The following are the subjects of examination in elementary theoretical chemistry:—Chemical action: Illustrations and examples; simple and compound substances; atoms and molecules; chemical symbols and nomenclature; formulae and equations; general nature of acids, bases, and salts. Combustion: Structure and properties of flame. Water: Proofs of composition; methods of purification. The air: Its constitution; reasons for considering it a mixture and not a compound. The chief physical and chemical characters, with methods of preparation of the following elements and compounds:—Hydrogen, oxygen (and ozone), nitrogen, carbon, chlorine, sulphur, nitrous oxide, nitric oxide, nitric acid, ammonia, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, marsh gas, olefiant gas, hydrochloric acid, sulphur dioxide, sulphurous acid, sulphuric acid, sulphuretted hydrogen.

DISPENSERSHIPS IN H.M. NAVAL HOSPITALS.—H.M. Civil Service Commissioners have notified that a competitive examination for one vacancy in the above, open to pharmaceutical chemists of Ireland not exceeding 25 years of age, is to be held in Dublin, commencing on January 4 next. Applications must be lodged, not later than December 17, with the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Westminster, from whom and from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society full particulars may be obtained.

THE NEW COUNCILLOR.—The address of Mr. William Burns, who was co-opted at the last meeting of the Council to that body, is Ballinamore, co. Leitrim, not as was reported.



Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Municipal Matters.

Mr. James Bissett, chemist, Burntisland, was at the head of the poll at the recent municipal election.

Mr. John Andrews, chemist, Cumnock, has been re-elected to the Town Council at the top of the poll, and his fellow-councillors have shown their appreciation of his worth by electing him a bailie.

Mr. William Doig, Dundee, has once more been raised to the magisterial bench as sixth bailie. Dr. Murison was also elected a bailie at the same time, he being the first bailie in the town for many years. Mr. William Park, chemist, Broughty Ferry, has also been re-elected to the Town Council of that burgh.

Distributing the Drug-contract.

At the last meeting of the Stevenston (Ayrshire) Parish Council, the contract for medicines for the Saltcoats part of the parish was given to Mr. James Walker, chemist, Saltcoats. For the Stevenston part of the parish it was resolved that Dr. Wallace should supply medicines.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

THE LATEST ADVERTISEMENT of a pharmacy in the Paris newspapers reads "More than a thousand doctors' prescriptions were made up yesterday at the — pharmacy. It is right to say that the greatest possible care was taken in

preparing them. Illustrated catalogue of 220 pages sent free on application."

ELECTION AT THE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.—On Tuesday the Paris Academy of Medicine elected a new member in place of Dr. Bourgoin, who died last February. There were six candidates—viz., MM. Bourquelot, Beauregard, Béhal, Balland, Vigier, and Yvon. The former was elected almost unanimously. M. Bourquelot is chief pharmacist of the Laënnec Hospital, Paris, and is a professor at the School of Pharmacy, having succeeded Dr. Bourgoin in the Chair of Galenical Pharmacy. He is the author of a number of works on biological chemistry, principally on sugars and soluble ferments met with in animals and plants.

CURIOUS ESCAPE FROM MERCURIAL POISONING.—M. Cappelle, a pharmacien at Tourcoing, and his family had a narrow escape a few days ago, but were saved by a happy hazard. The pharmacien's sister, Mdle. Cappelle, put some haricot beans to soak overnight in an enamelled pan, and the next day cooked them in an iron saucepan. When the beans were served at table it was noticed that there were small globules of metallic mercury on the plates. The dish was put aside, and it is supposed that a criminal hand had poured a corrosive sublimate on the beans while they were soaking. If they had been cooked in the enamelled pan, the whole family would probably have been poisoned, but the blebber, by coming into contact with the iron saucepan, was decomposed, yielding the globules which attracted attention. The pharmacien's porter has been arrested on suspicion of the attempted crime, as he alone had the keys of the poison cupboard.

DEATH OF DR. THOMAS W. EVANS.—This well-known American dentist died suddenly at his residence, 43 Avenue du Bois de Boulogne, Paris, last Sunday evening of heart-disease. A brother dentist, Dr. Crane, was with him at the time. Dr. Evans was 74 years of age, and had only recently returned from the United States, where he went to bury his wife, who died here last June. He practised in the rue de la Paix, and was a well-known personality in this city. At one time he had a very fashionable and rich clientèle which, although still large, has fallen off considerably in recent years. He came to France more than half a century ago, and joined a Mr. Brewster in business, afterwards succeeding him. Dr. Evans counted amongst his clients most of the crowned heads of Europe, and kept a glass showcase containing the presents received by him from Royalty. He was dentist to the Prince and Princess of Wales, a special chair for operating being kept for him at Marlborough House. A few years ago the Princess made the doctor a present of a pet dog for Mrs. Evans, the animal having a collar bearing a suitable inscription. The collar duly found a place in the showcase. I have frequently met Dr. Evans during recent years, and always enjoyed a conversation with him. He was short of stature, but had a very fine head, and his professional manner (to which he could add a very winning smile), besides inspiring confidence, was particularly engaging. His fund of anecdotes was great, and would it be disrespectful to say that some of them should be taken *cum grano salis*? One of these was that the famous Avenue du Bois de Boulogne (formerly called Avenue de l'Impératrice) was made as the result of a suggestion by him. The story, as told by the dentist, is that he was attending the Emperor Napoleon III. at the Tuileries one day, when the conversation turned on the thoroughfares of Paris, which were then being transformed under Baron Haussmann. "Why does not your Majesty make a splendid thoroughfare and call it the Avenue de l'Impératrice?" asked Dr. Evans. The idea seemed to please the Emperor, and he asked where it could be made. The dentist asked for a map of Paris, and drew a pencil line from the Arc de Triomphe to the Bois de Boulogne. Napoleon III. said it should be made, and on leaving the palace Dr. Evans immediately bought, as he expressed it, "all the land on the route of the new avenue he dare." He once confided to me the regret he had not taken more, but as it was, the investment brought him a considerable fortune. It is curious to note that it was to a house built by the doctor in this very avenue that the Empress Eugénie went on the evening of September 3, 1870, and asked the dentist to assist her to escape from Paris. He always kept the chair in the corner of the hall where she sat, while he asked for a few minutes' time to retire and

reflect. It is now a matter of history, that at some danger to himself he escorted his august client out of France, leaving Paris with her in his own carriage. He was naturally proud of the exploit, and I remember his relating the circumstances to me last spring, when some doubt was thrown on it by the Paris press as the result of the publication of a book of memoirs. Dr. Evans had the reputation of being fabulously rich. It is certain that he has left considerable wealth, but I should be surprised to learn he died a millionaire (in pounds sterling). At one time he had a weakness to become a newspaper proprietor, and the Paris *Morning News* cost him a good deal of money some fourteen years ago. More recently he presented and endowed a house, called the "Washington Home" for American lady art-students, which was a somewhat expensive undertaking. A constant complaint with the deceased dentist was that he did not know what to do with his money, and the details of his last will, only recently drawn up, will be awaited with interest by his relatives and friends. He leaves no direct heir, but has a brother, aged 85 years, who lives in Washington, and two nephews resident in Paris. One of Dr. Evans's sources of income was his tooth-paste, which alone brought him at least 1,000*l.* per annum profit. It would perhaps sound like a paradox to say that a high standard of education is a drawback to money-making; but it is certain that the deceased dentist's success was almost entirely due to his personal merit. His skill as a dentist was undoubtedly of a very high order.

Colonial and Foreign News.

ALLEGED DRUG THEFTS AT SYDNEY.—Percy Hutcheson and Wm Becker have been committed for trial at Sydney on the charge of stealing quantities of Beecham's pills, chlorodyne, Cockle's pills, Steadman's soothing-powders, pink pills, Holloway's pills, Mother Siegel's syrup, perfumery, and other articles, of the total value of 280*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*, the property of Elliott Brothers, wholesale druggists, O'Connell Street, Sydney.

A NEW COMMERCIAL DAILY IN NEW YORK.—Our contemporary, the *New York Shipping and Commercial List*, now a bi-weekly, will on January 1 next be converted into a daily commercial paper. It will advocate a policy of what it calls "strict and vigorous Americanism," which is only our old friend Protection under an alias. The *Commercial List* is 102 years old, quite an ancient institution for America, and is the property of Mr. D. O. Haynes, the owner of the *Pharmaceutical Era*, which he started at Detroit in 1887.

VANILLA-GROWING IN THE GERMAN COLONIES.—The German *Land und Plantagen Gesellschaft* of Kitopeni, near Bagamoyo, German East Africa, have set aside a large piece of land for the culture of vanilla. Part of this is already in bearing, but the crop this year has been very poor on account of the dryness. The plants want a moist soil and must have shade-trees, such as crotons or bananas, to protect them from the sun and absorb the excess of moisture. The finest vanilla-plantation in German East Africa is that of the Catholic Mission at Bagamoyo.

PHARMACEUTICAL EXAMINATIONS IN JAVA.—The society for the promotion of medical science in the Dutch Indies have petitioned the Government in Holland to abolish the medical, pharmaceutical, veterinary, and dental examinations which are now being held periodically in the Dutch Indies. The reason for this move is that whereas the examinations for all these professions in Holland are extremely difficult, in the Dutch Indies they are unusually easy, and, as there is no restriction with regard to nationality, the Dutch Colonies are overrun with Dutch and foreign, especially German, practitioners, who, finding themselves unable to qualify in Holland or in their own country, have emigrated to Java, and satisfied the examiners there.

A DISPENSING BLUNDER IN GERMANY.—A working man entered a German pharmacy some time ago with a prescription for solution of nitrate of silver, to be taken internally

against ulceration of the stomach. The pharmacist himself was from home, and in his absence the prescription was dispensed by an apprentice, under the supervision of a qualified locum tenens. The patient died after taking the medicine dispensed, which turned out to have been a 1-per-cent. solution of atropine. The pharmacist, upon his return, voluntarily paid 500*l.* damages to the working man's widow, and sold his business at a loss of 750*l.* He was also prosecuted by the authorities for manslaughter, together with the apprentice and the locum tenens. The last named was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment, the apprentice to two weeks', and the pharmacist to eight days' imprisonment.

Trade Notes.

THE Calendar sachets introduced by Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders were erroneously described last week as Calendar cachets.

AT the recent Brussels Exhibition gold medals were awarded to five typewriters, but the diploma of honour was given to the Remington.

WE are informed by the Liebig Company that without making any special effort in the way of trade bonuses, they sold more of their J. v. Liebig's in the month of October last than in any previous month since the formation of the company thirty years ago.

THE MAWSON FILTER COMPANY, 137A Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are appropriately calling attention to the efficacy of the Mawson filter as a household necessity while typhoid and other water-borne epidemic diseases are rife. They claim fairly that a loose charcoal filter such as theirs is the only medium available for removing bacterial toxins from water, as well as the suspended matter, and, when properly attended to, their filter is an efficient steriliser. Chemists who sell the Mawson filters should make a point of bringing these observations before those of their customers who have the filters, so as to get orders for fresh charges.

New Books.

Any book named in this list can be supplied post-free to any part of the world on receipt of the published price by the Publisher of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Abbott, A. C. *The Principles of Bacteriology: a Practical Manual for Students, &c.* 4th ed. Cr. 8vo. 12*s.* 6*d.* net. (H. K. Lewis.)

Aidall, I. *The German Nature-Cure, and how to practise it.* 8vo. 244 pp. 3*s.* 6*d.* net. (Nichols.)

Baker, C. F. *Course of Practical Chemistry for Medical Students, as prescribed by London Conjoint Board.* Cr. 8vo. 48 pp. 2*s.* 6*d.* net. (Simpkin.)

Clarke, Ernest. *Eyestrain* (commonly called Asthenopia). 2nd ed. With 22 illustrations. 8vo. 5*s.* (Churchill.)

Duhring, L. A. *Cutaneous Medicine: a Systematic Treatise on Diseases of the Skin. Part 2: Classification, Anæmias, &c.* 12*s.* (Lippincott.)

Heath's *Minor Surgery and Bandaging.* 11th ed. With 163 engravings. Fcap. 8vo. 6*s.* (Churchill.)

Holloway, H. *Constipation in Adults and Children.* 8vo. 17*s.* net. (Macmillan.)

Mitra, A. *The Bubonic Plague.* 8vo. 1*s.* 6*d.* (Thacker.)

Starling, E. H. *Elements of Human Physiology.* 140 illustrations. Cr. 8vo. 7*s.* 6*d.* (Churchill.)

Townshend, Chas. F. *Chemistry for Photographers.* 8vo. 158 pp. 1*s.* net. (Dawbarn & Ward, Ltd.)

Year-book of Pharmacy, 1897. Price 10*s.* (Churchill.)

COMMERCIAL (to his wife, who has just presented him with twins): "My dear, a sample would have been sufficient. There is no necessity for carrying a stock."

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

EVENING MEETING.

TUESDAY evening's meeting was a distinct success. A large and representative audience welcomed the President as he took the chair, and the communications were such as to invoke both attention and sympathy. Professor REYNOLDS GREEN led off with his paper on

PHARMACY IN SOME AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES.

In his preliminary observations he remarked that his ten years' experience as a teacher of pharmaceutical students, and latterly his rôle as an examiner qualified him for broaching the subject of pharmaceutical education. He reminded his hearers that present day conditions of study differed largely from the methods of earlier date, laboratories and practical work having superseded the more theoretical methods formerly in favour. As other countries than our own were engaged in the crusade on behalf of education, it was interesting to examine the methods adopted by them for raising the general standard; and the Professor's recent visit to North America afforded him the opportunity for inquiring into the conditions under which pharmaceutical students are taught at Chicago and Minneapolis, where schools of pharmacy were inspected, and Professor Green described their respective equipments, hours, staff, and subjects taught. Until he arrived at the library and museum Professor Green's remarks travelled through a minor key, but here he felt Bloomsbury Square justified him in striking a major chord, for the superiority in these important departments was very obvious. A remark which pleased a section of the audience indicated that in England too much stress was laid upon examinations pure and simple; at Chicago the work in the laboratory is allowed to have a bearing upon the examination. The more comprehensive character of the instruction imparted, as compared with the British syllabus, was referred to, bacteriology, physiological chemistry, therapeutics, and toxicology all being included in the scheme of instruction planned in American schools of pharmacy. Reference was also made to the degrees conferred in those cases where the schools are connected with the Universities.

The PRESIDENT, in opening a discussion, remarked that the subject of education was in the air, and Professor Green's paper would serve as a text for many a debate during the session. The refinements introduced into the laboratories described were apt to make one's mouth water, but he could not help wondering, when he listened to the long roll of subjects read off, if the hour in America did not contain more than sixty minutes!

Mr. MICHAEL CARTEIGHE said there was a greater disposition in America to grant professional status to the pharmacist than was the case here, and that in spite of the fact that as a purely business man the American pharmacist was a much keener man of business than his English *confrère*. In discussing titles, the fondness of Jonathan for a title was aptly illustrated by calling attention to the fact that in England a very highly-accomplished university scholar might hold a high State-appointment, and still be nothing more in the eyes of the State than a "clerk," a condition of things which would not be tolerated in America.

Mr. W. MARTINDALE pointed out that the objective of a considerable proportion of the young men attending the American College of Pharmacy was the desire to obtain such a store of knowledge as would enable them to float a proprietary article which should speedily bring them wealth.

The PRESIDENT, in conveying a vote of thanks, confessed to having a warm regard for the apprenticeship system, which was, he regretted to say, practically non-existent in America, and was declining in this country; he even thought the medical man of to-day had lost something in the passing away of the old system of pupillage.

SUPPOSITORIES.

This paper by Messrs. J. O. BRAITHWAITE and E. WHITE was read by the latter. It was suggested by an examination of an

ordinary mould, in which considerable variations in the capacity of the respective cavities was detected. In the first place, some eighteen or nineteen moulds were examined, and the discrepancies were so great as to cause conjecture as to the standard adopted by the makers for gauging the capacity of the moulds. A table was exhibited in which the discrepancies were compared. A mould was also obtained from a maker under a guarantee, and it was found that this 15-gr. mould gave a mean of 154 gr. which would point to the fact that carelessness in drilling is accountable for some of the variations. An examination of certain suppositories obtained from wholesale houses and from dispensing establishments indicated much wider variations than were justifiable, both in the proportion of active ingredient and in the weight of the resulting suppository. Tannic acid, morphine, iodoform, mercury, zinc oxide and lead iodide were the active ingredients. Suppositories reputed to contain $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. morphine were found to vary between $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. and $\frac{3}{4}$ gr. The tannic acid was estimated by gently melting the suppository, gently shaking with successive quantities of warm water, filtering, evaporating and weighing the dry residue; the general examination indicated a deficiency. The morphine was estimated by exhausting with water and dividing the filtered aqueous fluid into two portions; one of these evaporated to dryness gave the weight of morphine (either hydrochlorate or sulphate), and the second portion could be used as a control by estimating the quantity of chloride or sulphate present. On account of the small amount of morphine salt present the experimental error is likely to be large. The iodoform was estimated by saponifying with caustic potash, and estimating the iodine. Iodoform has so high a specific gravity that it is a difficult matter to ensure equal distribution in pouring the mass into the moulds. The mercury was estimated by exhausting the suppository placed in a tared filter paper in a Soxhlet's tube with ether and weighing the residue mercury. Specimens of authenticated cocoas were obtained, and pressed to observe if there was any variation in the specific gravity and melting-points of the respective oils of theobroma; the range of variation was not wide, but certainly wider than errors of experiment would account for. Attention was drawn to the fact that in the moulds, as ordinarily made, no allowance for differences in the specific gravity of the suppository mass was possible; this drawback gave rise to a suggestion for a new form of mould. A model embodying the suggestion was shown: a cylindrical cavity is bored through a thick metal plate, a second metal plate capable of being brought into the closest possible contact with the base of the upper perforated plate is provided with a small depression which accurately corresponds with the cylinder. A weighed quantity of the suppository mass made by the cold process is introduced into the cylinder, and after screwing up the two plates a plunger compresses the mass into a solid cylinder with rounded apex; the lower plate is now removed, leaving the suppository projecting slightly below the surface of the upper plate; upon continuing the pressure with the plunger the completed suppository can now be removed from the mould. To ensure accuracy, the authors insisted upon the ingredients being weighed accurately, careful distribution of the active medicament in oil that was semi-fluid, and calculating for, say, eight suppositories when six were ordered.

The PRESIDENT pointed out the need for the pharmacist to acquaint himself with the anatomy of his moulds before beginning to use them, and he hinted that some further and fuller instructions regarding suppository-making would appear in the forthcoming issue of the B.P.

Mr. GERRARD advocated the use of a 20-gr. rather than a 15-gr. suppository; he had also found cocoa-butters melting as low as 30.5° C., although the range observed by the authors of the paper was from 31.5° C. to 34.2° C. He thought a variation of $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. was not an unreasonable margin to allow.

Mr. E. M. HOLMES said two cocoa-butters appeared in commerce under the headings of "Commercial" and "Pure," but he was not able to say wherein the difference between them lay. The bulk of expressed oil of theobroma, he understood, was absorbed in the manufacture of chocolate-creams.

Mr. C. UMNEY confirmed Mr. Holmes's statement, and remarked that in pharmacy nothing but the yellow-tinted article should be used.

Mr. MARTINDALE mentioned the special club-shaped suppository (devised by Mr. H. S. Wellcome) which finds favour in the United States.

Mr. WHITE briefly replied, and Dr. PAUL then called attention to a fine exhibit of salts of emetine which had been sent by Mr. T. Whiffen. The hydrobromide was especially indicated as a suitable salt for medicinal use. A sample of orthoform, the new anæsthetic, was also on view.

The Winter Session.

THE WESTERN CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION (OF LONDON).

THE annual dinner of this Association was held at the Café Royal on Wednesday evening. Mr. J. W. Taplin (the retiring President) was in the chair, and the company numbered about seventy, including the president and secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society. Apologies for absence were noted from Mr. Martindale, Dr. Luff, Mr. Idris, and others.

The PRESIDENT proposed the toast of the Western Chemists' Association, which was responded to by his successor, Mr. J. HITCHCOCK MATHEWS, who, in a brief retrospect of the history of the Association, claimed that it had during the past seven years established some claim to have served the craft generally. Their aims had been rather of a business and a social character than scientific, and in these respects he maintained that they had succeeded.

The PRESIDENT next proposed the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and said they were proud to have such a president as Mr. Hills.

Mr. HILLS, in responding, alluded to some of the songs on the programme, and said if he were to invite chemists to join the Pharmaceutical Society, he might be charged with acting the Spider and the Fly. He did not think, however, it was necessary to try to convert them. He believed they were in the main in accord with the work of the Society. He wanted the Council to be a concentrated extract of the Society; it might be a fluid extract made with the spirit of enthusiasm and the water of common-sense. He thought there was now a movement among the dry bones of pharmacy. He gathered from the journals that the two subjects attracting the most attention were the consolidation of the Pharmaceutical Society and education in its widest sense. They had had a large order from Plymouth lately, but he argued that they must first go to Parliament with a simple Bill on which they could speak with an undivided voice. There were many subjects which deserved consideration, but the first thing to do was to make all chemists and druggists eligible to become members of the Society. If they succeeded they might in two or three years take up some of the other subjects suggested, many of which had his sympathies. He would like to take the opportunity of explaining the reference to an intermediate examination which he made at Sheffield lately. He had then spoken in favour of such an examination "on certain lines." That qualification had, like Mesopotamia, proved a blessed one to some journalists who could make nothing of it. He explained that his object was to ensure that apprentices should have something to work for from the first day of their apprenticeship, but he certainly did not desire that such an examination should carry any kind of qualification. Another subject which had been lately mentioned in one of the journals had reference to the proceedings preliminary to the Act of 1868. He had not previously spoken on the subject. He was quite willing to credit those who then opposed the Pharmaceutical Society with a desire to benefit the trade; but he maintained that if that Act had followed more the lines of the Act of 1852 with a poison schedule added, and if it had been made compulsory for chemists and druggists to join the Society, they would have been a much stronger body than they were, and they might—he did not know that they could—have prevented the limited-company difficulty.

Mr. MORLEY TAYLOR, President of the Chemists' Assistants' Association, acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors," and the speeches were concluded by the CHAIRMAN responding to the toast of his own health. Some songs and a

mandoline performance were rendered during the evening by a professional party.

SHOP-TALK.

THIS was the title of a paper read to the Bradford and District Chemists' Association on November 2, as reported in our issue of November 6. It was written by Messrs. F. A. Wilcock and T. A. Mitchell, and at our request the manuscript has been sent to us. Much of it is of the kind we are familiar with in Association papers, but one passage makes some definite statements which seem worth quoting. It is on

HOME-MADE GALENICALS.

The authors said: We believe it is the best plan to make everything that can be made on a small scale, for not only can the articles be made as good as or better than those bought from wholesale houses, but in most cases a considerable saving can be effected. Some, of course, take a considerable time to make, and then it is a question for each one to settle whether the expenditure of time will be repaid or not. But, in many cases, after the preparation has been set on a few minutes' attention now and then is all that is necessary to keep it going. We have made *tr. cinchonæ* at a cost of 1s. 10d. per lb., the price quoted by two first-class wholesale houses is 3s. 4d. per lb.; *tr. opii*, 2s. 1½d., list-price 3s. 4d.; *tr. benzoin co.*, 2s. 2½d., list-price 3s. 6d.; *tr. camph. co.*, 1s. 6d., list-prices 2s. 4d. and 2s. 6d.; *tr. myrrhæ*, 2s. 9d., list-price 3s. 6d.; *tr. podoph.*, 2s. 8½d., list-price 4s.; *liq. ammon. acet. fort.*, 4d. per lb., list-price 1s.; *liq. morph. hydrochlor.*, 1s. 5½d., list-price 2s. 8d.; *liq. plumbi*, 1½d., list-price 3d. per lb., 4s. per cwt.; *lin. camphor. B.P.*, 9½d. per lb., list-price 1s. 2d.; *lin. camphor. co. meth.*, 5½d., list-price 1s.; *inf. quassæ conc.*, 4d., list-prices 10d. and 1s.; *syr. ferri phosph. co. B.P.C.*, 2½d., list-price 8d.; *syrup. Eastoni*, 6d., list-price 1s. 4d.; and so on.

THE APPRENTICE

may be a necessary evil, but it is difficult to see how he could be dispensed with under present conditions. And, as we have him, it is to our interest to see that he begins to learn the rudiments of practical and theoretical chemistry and pharmacy as soon as possible. In cities like Bradford it is of course, easy for him to obtain lessons, but that knowledge, requires practical application before it is really assimilated; while it is practically impossible for the country apprentices to obtain any assistance in their studies except what their master can give them. Here the utility of home-manufacture comes in. If the apprentices, under supervision, manufacture the articles in every-day use, and are encouraged to inquire into the reasons for the various processes they have to conduct, they will take an interest in pharmacy for its own sake, and in that way will gain more real knowledge of the Pharmacopœia than any amount of "stewing" at a school of pharmacy will ever give them. Only the work must be done in a proper manner, and not in the slipshod fashion practised in some country pharmacies we have known, where, when they wish to make, say, a gallon of *tr. rhei. co.*, they shoot all the ingredients into a bottle, pour on the spirit, stick it on a shelf, and give it a shake up, perhaps, once a week or so, and when they require any pour off the top, and finish up by pressing the marc, filtering, and using that.

The rest of the "shop-talk" had to do with the education of the apprentice, the organisation of chemists and what could be done if they were all united with the Pharmaceutical Society at the head, the trade in patent medicines, prices generally, the prescription of proprietary medicines, and early closing, on all of which topics the authors were strictly orthodox, but not very original.

RE-ORGANISATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

THE meeting of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Chemists' Association, which we reported briefly last week, discussed the following propositions which were explained by the PRESIDENT (Mr. James Cocks) to have been the result of the labours of a sub-committee specially

deputed to consider the suggested amendment of the Pharmacy Act.

That it is desirable, in the best interests of pharmacy, that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain should, without delay, take the necessary steps to introduce a Bill into Parliament, providing—(1) That pharmaceutical students should, on registration as such, be eligible for election as associates of the Pharmaceutical Society; (2) that there should be an interval of three years between registration and presentation for the Minor or Qualifying examination; (3) that registered pharmaceutical students should, on passing the Minor or Qualifying examination, be entitled to assume the title of "Pharmacist" or "Pharmaceutical Chemist," and be eligible for election as members of the Pharmaceutical Society; (4) that registered pharmacists should, on passing the Major or Honours examination, be eligible for election as Fellows of the Pharmaceutical Society.

The Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Chemists' Association hereby pledges itself to do its utmost locally to support the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society in the endeavour to secure the passing of such a Bill, and commends the matter to the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations as being worthy of immediate and careful consideration by the constituent Associations.

In proposal No. 1 Mr. KELLY suggested that "undergraduate" would be a better designation for students who had passed the Preliminary, and Mr. NETTING thought "pupil associates" might be substituted. Ultimately, however, the recommendation, verbally altered by Mr. JOHNSON as follows—

That students, on passing the Preliminary examination or its equivalent, shall be eligible for election as associates of the Pharmaceutical Society, and be registered as such—

was adopted.

Suggestion No. 2 was carried, the words "at least" being inserted after the words "three years." Proposals Nos. 2 and 3 were agreed to in principle, but No. 4 was not considered. On the motion of Mr. BREEZE a resolution was carried urging that the Pharmaceutical Society should endeavour to get exemption from jury-service granted in any future legislation.

Subsequently a resolution was passed, on the motion of Mr. O. A. READE, expressing the opinion that the action of the Local Government Board in recognising dispensing by unqualified men constitutes a danger to the public and a moral evasion of the Pharmacy Act.

The following resolution was also unanimously carried:—

That, with a view to placing elementary pharmaceutical education on a uniform and satisfactory basis throughout Great Britain, it is desirable that a conference should be called to deal with the matter in accordance with the views expressed in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* of October 23 last, and that the President of the Pharmaceutical Society should be requested to preside at that conference.

MATHEMATICS AND PHARMACY.

At the meeting of the Chemists' Assistants' Association on November 11 (the President, Mr. T. Morley Taylor, in the chair) a paper was read by Mr. THOMAS THOMPSON, entitled "A Mathematical Training and its Bearing on a Pharmaceutical Career."

When Plato wrote over the portals of his school "Let no one ignorant of geometry enter here," he did not mean that questions relating to squares and circles would enter into the discussions of his disciples. He meant simply that a man whose thinking faculties had not been subjected to a scrupulously accurate training in systematic reasoning, and the employment of means of drawing legitimate conclusions from propositions previously assumed was unqualified to examine high topics in disputation with others with a view to arrive at the truth, and that the kind of logical discipline which he required was most likely to be gained from geometry.

Our future lawyers, clergy, and statesmen are compelled at all the great seats of learning, to devote a considerable portion of their time to the study of curves, angles, numbers, and proportions, not because these subjects have any special bearing on the requirements of their future careers, but because in the act of acquiring this knowledge

they are most likely to become vested with that habit of constant and exact thinking which is a necessity to success in whatever walk of life they may ultimately choose; and why should not this logical discipline be necessary to the pharmacist, whose duties and responsibilities are none the less arduous because there is a commercial side to his profession?

In the examination-room the exercise of his mental faculties is put to a severe test, especially those of judgment and reasoning. He is confronted with problems in chemistry and physics; he is required to put those theories into practice by performing certain experiments; he is required to draw inferences from the results of two experiments as to the purity of the substances experimented upon; finally, he is subjected to a searching oral examination, when clear, concise answers strikingly contrast with hesitating and undecided ones. In the pharmacy, too, the almost every-day emergencies and contingencies which have to be met call into play the faculties of judgment and reason, while the acquirement of new knowledge in connection with the sciences allied to pharmacy—such as chemistry, physics, and bacteriology—render necessary a mathematical foundation.

Mr. Thompson developed this view at considerable length, and at the close of his lecture a vote of thanks was passed to him for it.

THE LAND OF GREEN GINGER.

THE meeting of the Liverpool Chemists' Association on November 11 was quite unusual in its character. A large company—the lecture-theatre being filled to overflowing—assembled to hear Mr. CHARLES SHARP, F.L.S., deliver his address on "The Land of Green Ginger—a Discourse in Praise of Gardens." The lecturer dealt with the universal craving that exists in the human mind for a garden, and commented in raucous manner on mythical gardens—Paradise, Elysium, &c. Then followed the gardens of history and the gardens of poets, monks, philosophers, physic gardens, and the gardens of Shakespeare, all of which were treated with light, yet telling, effect. The attractions of the lecture were enhanced by a series of splendid limelight views. Much amusement was created by a description of the parson's garden and the church choir, with vocal illustrations. Mr. Sharp concluded his remarks by describing his experiences in "The Land of Green Ginger"—a quaint garden on a housetop in the heart of London, where an old herbalist had succeeded in inducing a large number of plants to grow in unexpected luxuriance. On the motion of the SECRETARY, seconded by Mr. J. BAIN, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Sharp.

BRADFORD AND DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

A SOCIAL evening was held at the Great Northern Victoria Hotel, Bradford, on November 16. There was a moderate attendance of the members, their wives, and friends. Mr. Waddington presided in the absence of the President (Alderman Hy. Dunn). An interesting programme of songs and instrumental music was rendered.

BRIGHTON JUNIOR ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACY.

THE eighth annual dinner of this Association was held at the Café Royal, Brighton, on November 10. The President (Mr. C. A. Blayney) was in the chair, and the numerous company included several well-known Brighton doctors and chemists. Dr. WHITTLE replied for "The Medical Profession," who were toasted by Mr. H. A. COSTERTON; "The Pharmaceutical Society" was proposed by Dr. CHEPMELL, and replied for by Mr. G. C. YATES; and Mr. W. H. GIBSON acknowledged the toast of "The Brighton Senior Association." A good programme of songs was added to the evening's entertainment.

SHEFFIELD PHARMACEUTICAL AND CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

THE first general meeting of the session was held on November 11 at Bird's Hotel, Pinstone Street, the President (Mr. G. Squire) in the chair.

The PRESIDENT said they intended that night, after the meeting, to have a smoking-concert, and, if members desired such social functions to be continued, the Council would be pleased to arrange for them. The Council had also decided to have a ball on February 10, which, it was hoped, would become an annual event. After some formal business, the concert, which was a thoroughly enjoyable one, proceeded. Among the gentlemen who took part in the programme were Messrs. Hardcastle, N. C. Newton, G. A. Shipman, E. C. Carr, Reynolds, Brinson, Parks, and Swinglehurst. Mr. G. A. Shipman officiated at the piano.

CAMBRIDGE PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE fifth annual meeting was held at the Prince of Wales Hotel on November 12, the President (Mr. Alderman Deck, F.C.S.) in the chair. Eight other members were present. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed. Letters from Mr. Glyn-Jones (Secretary P.A.T.A.), Mr. Newsholme, and Mr. Darton Gibbs (Hon. Sec. of the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations) were read. A vote of continued confidence in the P.A.T.A. was carried, and a contribution was voted to the funds. It was also decided that a meeting should be held on December 3 (Friday), when Mr. Addison would move "That all registered chemists and druggists shall be eligible for membership of the Pharmaceutical Society." Other subjects suggested by the F.L.P.A. will be discussed. The annual report was read by Mr. B. SIDNEY CAMPKIN, Hon. Secretary. Mr. E. S. Peck was heartily thanked for the efficient manner in which he had conducted the affairs of the Association, and regrets at his resignation were expressed. The financial statement showed a balance in hand of 2*l.* 1*l.*s. 2*d.*

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Mr. Alderman Deck, F.C.S., President; Messrs. A. Sidney Campkin, J.P., and E. Saville Peck, B.A., Vice-Presidents; Mr. H. F. Cook, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. Bernhard S. Campkin, 74 Mill Road, Cambridge, Hon. Secretary. Committee: Messrs. C. S. Addison, E. H. Church, H. J. Parsons, E. W. Moss, H. F. Turner, L. T. White.

Trade-Marks Applied for.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," November 3, 1897.)

Decorated label with device and wording "Zimmer's Euchinin," &c.; for a medicine for human use. By Vereingte Chininfabriken Zimmer & Co., Gesellschaft mit Beschraenkter Haftung, 46 Darmstaedter Landstrasse, Frankfurt-on-Maine. 205,746. Essential particular, the device.

Round label with wording and device; for a medicated preparation for the hands and face, made of oil, wax, and camphor. By the firm trading as William and Henry Jackson, 13-15 Lydia Ann Street, Liverpool, drysalts and oil merchants. 207,096. Essential particular, the device.

"MEESSE"; for an ink-solvent for printing purposes. By Daisy (Limited), the Twin Daisy Works, Holbeck Lane, Leeds. 207,376.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," November 10, 1897.)

"FRAMITE"; for a powder, being mixture of chemical substances for use in making freezing-mixture. By E. Roberts & Sons (Limited), 264 Camberwell Road, London, wholesale confectioners. 206,012.

Oblong label with sketch of horse, and wording; for a worm-powder for the use of horses. By J. H. Dalwood & Co., The Parade, Sherborne, chemists and druggists. 201,417. Essential particular: label device.

"SUNJEEVEE"; for a herbal medicine for human use. By A. C. Irwin & Co., 22 Billiter Buildings, Billiter Street, London, E.C., merchants.

"VIOLET," and representation of the violet-plant in bloom; for headache, being a medicine for human use. By W. H. Briggs, 27 Market Street, Hebden Bridge, chemist, and Thomas Briggs, 19 Wharfe Street, Sowerby Bridge, chemist. 207,515. Essential particular: the plant.

Round label with wording, "Bell's Sucker Ointment," &c., and device of cricketer at wickets; for an ointment for human use. By C. Bell, Netley House, 95 Victoria Road, Scarborough, ointment-manufacturer. 207,021. Essential particular: the device.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," November 17, 1897.)

"LALOIN," and two labels with directions for use, &c.; for an embrocation for horses, cattle, dogs, and other animals in Class 2; also for an embrocation for human use in Class 3. By Laloin Company, Ack Lane, Bramhall, Cheshire, embrocation manufacturers. 206,128-9. Essential particular, word "Laloin."

Figure of child holding bottle, and wording "Save your Children," &c.; for a medicinal preparation for the cure of convulsions and worms in children. By W. Humphreys, 14 Market Square, Blaenau Festiniog, North Wales, quarry clerk and Baptist minister. 206,981. Essential particular, the device.

Representation of female reclining on couch, with apparatus applied to foot, and the words "Disease Arrestor"; for instruments, apparatus, and contrivances, not medicated, for the cure of disease, but not including hygienic towels and flesh-gloves. By the Animarium Company, 261 Fifth Avenue, New York, U.S.A., manufacturers. 208,206. Essential particular, the device.

Facsimile signature of applicants; for cocoa, chocolate, and any manufacture or preparation for use as food, made partly or exclusively from cocoa-beans. By C. J. Van Houten & Zoon, Weesp, Holland, manufacturers. 207,686.

"KEYSTONE"; for mineral and aerated waters (natural and artificial), including ginger-beer. By the Keystone Company, 98 Leunox Street, Birmingham. 208,628.

Business Changes.

Notices of changes in the retail trade, and opening of new businesses, are inserted in this section free of charge, if properly authenticated.

MESSRS. W. S. PARK & SON, dispensing chemists, have removed from 152 to 156 Platt Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

MR. L. A. J. HUTCHIN has sold his business at 116 Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, to Mr. W. Adams, and has removed to Loughton, Essex.

MESSRS. E. WIMPORY & Co., brush, comb, and sundries makers, have removed from Finsbury Pavement to larger premises, at 131 and 132 Bunhill Row.

MR. ALFRED SCHMITS, wholesale druggist, has transferred his business from Barmen, Germany, to Cologne. His address in the last-named city is 10A Maria Ablass-Platz.

MESSRS. CLIFFORD CHRISTOPHERSON & Co., London, agents for the Washington Chemical Company (Limited), and dealers in chemicals, are removing from Great Tower Street to 21 Mincing Lane, E.C.

MR. JOHN PIM JACKSON, pharmaceutical chemist, formerly of South Kensington and Walham Green, has purchased the business hitherto carried on by, Messrs. Cooke & Co., 68 Brighton Road, Surbiton.

MESSRS. A. & J. WARREN are retiring from the business carried on by the Warren family for over half a century in Redcliff Street, Bristol. They have disposed of their stock of drugs and chemicals to Messrs. Evans, Gadd & Co., of Exeter, by whom orders sent to 23 and 24 Redcliff Street, Bristol, will be executed. Messrs. Evans, Gadd & Co. do not acquire Messrs. A. & J. Warren's methylated-spirit business, but orders for methylated spirit may still be sent to 23 and 24 Redcliff Street for execution.

DOCTOR: "Well, Pat, have you taken that box of pills I sent you?" Pat: "Yes, sur, be jabers, I have, but I don't feel any better. Maybe the lid has not come off yet."

MR. MARTIN CHOTZEN, specialist in diseases of the skin at Breslau, Germany, is the author of a new work on "Syphilis and Syphilitic Diseases of the Skin," specially written for students and medical men. The book takes the form of an atlas, and contains seventy-two coloured plates, almost all taken from life from patients treated by the author either in his private practice or in the course of his duties as specialist in skin-diseases at the hospital at Breslau. The atlas is published at 36m. by Leopold Voss, of Hamburg and Leipzig.

Legal Reports.

THE PHARMACY ACT—WALLACE'S "SPECIFIC" PROSECUTION.

AT Bow Street Police Court on November 12 Mr. Lushington held an adjourned sitting in respect to the Treasury summons heard by him on October 4 against Mr. Joseph Wallace, of Albany Terrace, Regent's Park, for having sold a bottle of "Specific," alleged to contain poison, without so labelling it, and without having entered the name of the purchaser (he being a stranger to him) in a book, in contravention of the provisions of the 17th section of the Pharmacy Act, 1868.

On the last occasion Mr. Schultess Young, who appeared for the defendant, set up that in the process of compounding the specific it was freed from poison, as had been tested by Dr. Wynter Blyth, who had analysed it, and a bottle had been actually taken at one dose without ill results. On this Mr. Lushington adjourned the case to enable an independent analysis to be made.

On Friday the case was watched by Mr. Walter Hills and Mr. Brembridge, President and Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Mr. Young now proposed to call expert evidence to prove that an analysis had been made from precisely the stock shown to the inspector who called at defendant's on behalf of the Treasury, and that he himself took some of the bottles, and also evidence of the preparation of the tincture from the defendant's specification, and the results.

Accordingly Ada Tracey, secretary to the defendant, said she had the custody and sale of this specific. Following a charge against defendant early in the year (in February) that stock was put away, and had not been sold. On June 11 last she sold a bottle of specific No. 1 from the common stock, consisting of several hundred bottles, to a person giving the name of Partridge (the informant in the present case). The stock was not exhausted when a representative from the Treasury came and selected ten bottles from it, and marking them, did them up in boxes and sealed them, and they were subsequently taken away.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bodkin, who appeared for the Treasury, she said there was a change made in the mode of preparing the preparation in March; well, it might have been before the prosecution in February, but she could not definitely remember, nor was her recollection helped by a report in a health paper that the new method of preparation was not disclosed lest it should affect the patent. She knew nothing about the preparation except that she sold it as it came to her hands. There were still a few bottles of the old stock left, but they were kept quite apart from the new. She had never tried to work it off, and all of the old had been kept, except a few bottles which had been given away. She did not know how it was made, nor did she know that she had seen aconite-plant about in the place. The whisky of which the specific was partly composed came from Ireland. The bottles, old and new, were alike in shape, colour, and size, as were the labels and stamp.

Re-examined: All the old bottles were labelled "poison," and if she gave one away now she took care to see it so labelled. In deference to the decision of the magistrate in February, she was forbidden to sell the old stock, which was labelled poison, and the new not. The whole of the stock in hand on sale was pointed out to the Treasury inspector for his choice, and he said "Give me any you like." She saw Mr. Wallace swallow a bottle of it, and he suffered no ill effects from it.

Dr. Wynter Blyth, public analyst for Marylebone, said he had had experience in the analysis of poisons, including aconite. On August 21 he received from defendant the two bottles produced, sealed, and analysed the contents, as well as four others of the same kind. His analysis showed it to contain a small portion of aconitine, the great bulk of it being benzoyl aconine and a small portion of aconine. He extracted a residue amounting to 12 milligrammes, and that residue had a bitter taste, and conveyed a slight numbing sensation. One-thousandth of a grain of aconitine would have no appreciable ill-effect on man; still, he did not doubt $\frac{1}{5000}$ gr. of crystallised aconitine would kill a mouse, as Dr.

Luff had testified on the last occasion. There was not enough aconitine in one of the defendant's bottles to do a man injury; it was practically inert. He had prepared a tincture from the defendant's specification. It included the boiling of the aconitine, which would have the effect of splitting it up; and keeping it boiling for twenty-four hours he expected would break it up entirely. He obtained from the materials, including aconite-root, handed to him as embracing this specification, 3 milligrammes of extract, containing a very minute proportion of aconitine, working out to something like .004 gr. per ounce bottle.

Cross-examined: He said he believed he was consulted by defendant over the February prosecution, and his recollection was that he pronounced the preparation injurious to the extent that it was not proper for a person to take. Its preparation would involve care and skill. He did not doubt a mouse would die from the injection of the aconitine contained in one of the bottles in question. He agreed with Dr. Luff that aconitine was very dangerous, especially to persons with a weak heart.

Re-examined: He said the physiological effect as tested on a man would be obviously better than testing it on a mouse. His analysis was made from six bottles, and Dr. Luff's treatment of one he thought less satisfactory. Any person taking a bottle of this he should expect to be perfectly well afterwards. The most active ingredient in it would be the whisky; the aconitine would be inert.

The Rev. C. J. Nevill, vicar of Stoke Gabriel, Devon, was called to prove that at the last hearing, when he was in court listening to the case, he swallowed the contents of one of the bottles taken by the Treasury inspector from defendant's house, and suffered no ill results; but the Magistrate intimated that this kind of evidence would not affect his mind, on which

Mr. Young said he would refrain from calling several ladies to testify to similar facts, and intimated that this was the case for the defendant.

On this, Dr. Luff was recalled by Mr. Bodkin, for the Treasury, to prove that since the last hearing he had experimented on aconite root and whisky. The whisky contained considerably beyond the amount of tannic acid mentioned in defendant's specification. He also followed the specification in dealing with the aconite-root, and experimenting on 5 oz. he found on analysis $\frac{1}{50}$ gr. of aconitine per fluid ounce. Injecting two mice, one with $\frac{1}{500}$ gr. of aqueous solution and the other with $\frac{1}{500}$ gr. of aconitine, both died in twenty minutes.

Cross-examined: He admitted that the root contained more aconitine than any other part of the plant. He certainly thought it would be better to test a bottle on a man than a mouse, and he said this after deliberate consideration. He should be quite satisfied with seeing its effects on a mouse.

Mr. Young cited the opinions of Lord Justice Fry and Mr. Justice (now Lord Justice) Collins to show that the essence of breaking the law largely depended on the quantity of poison contained in a mixture.

Dr. Luff pointed out that he had consistently throughout this case referred not to pure but to ordinary commercial aconitine, of which about from a quarter to a third would be pure. He examined the mixture for poison, and not for aconitine only. You could not go by the aconitine only; some of the remainder was poisonous.

Mr. Young said defendant was summoned for using aconitine; but the Magistrate remarked that he did not think the difference would affect his decision; and discouraged the continuance of this form of cross-examination.

In the result, after a three hours' hearing, his Worship said he could not doubt that this was a poisonous preparation as containing aconitine, and so far from its improving the case to say that two persons had swallowed each a bottle of it, he thought it dangerous, in that people might be induced to take it, thinking it harmless, because it had not affected others. He should convict the defendant on the four summonses taken out against him on all the points charged in breach of the Act—that he sold a poison without so labelling the bottle, that he did not take the name of the purchaser, nor did he enter it in a book; and if he mentioned that this was the second time defendant had appeared on a summons of this kind, it was to remind him that any

penalty after this would be heavier. As it was, he should fine him on each of the four summonses 5*l.* and costs, on which latter he desired to hear counsel for the Treasury.

Mr. Bodkin said that apart from the legal costs he had no doubt the expenses would be over 50*l.*

Then, said Mr. Lushington, he should put the Treasury's costs at forty guineas on the first summons, and 2*s.* each on the remaining three.

Mr. Young asked leave to appeal, and his Worship said, "Oh yes," but he should require a substantial amount as bond for proceeding with it—two sureties in 100*l.* each.

These were tendered, and, not being objected to, their recognisances were taken accordingly, and the proceedings ended.

A CANADIAN DRUGGIST APPEALS TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

ON November 12, before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, consisting of Lord Watson, Lord Hobhouse, Lord Davey, and Sir Richard Couch, a petition was heard for special leave to appeal from a decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, Province of Quebec, Canada, which reversed a judgment of the superior Court given in favour of the petitioners in an action brought against them. The petitioners were Kerry & Co., a firm of wholesale druggists at Quebec.

Mr. Haldane, Q.C., and Mr. Brosseau (of the Canadian Bar) appeared on their behalf.

The plaintiff in the action was Dr. England. Dr. England's wife was recovering from influenza, and bismuth was prescribed for her. Two ounces of bismuth were ordered from a chemist, a dose was given to Mrs. England and she became ill. It was subsequently ascertained that what was supposed to be bismuth was in reality antimony. The chemist stated that he had ordered bismuth from the petitioners—a firm of druggists—and that by the mistake of an employé, antimony was supplied instead of bismuth. Mrs. England died, and Dr. England afterwards brought the action against the petitioners, claiming \$20,000 for himself and \$20,000 for his son. The petitioners denied that they were to blame. The jury found that Mrs. England died from natural causes, and that though her death was accelerated by the antimony it was not accelerated to any appreciable extent, and they gave \$1,000 damages to Dr. England's son, but none to Dr. England. The petitioners applied to the superior Court for judgment in their favour, and Dr. England applied for a new trial. The superior Court decided in favour of the petitioners, and granted their motion for judgment on the ground that the plaintiff had failed to show that the petitioners were guilty of any fault in law towards him, but that the responsibility was with the chemist and not the petitioners, and that it did not appear that there was any *lien de droit* between the petitioners and the plaintiff. The superior Court dismissed the action and the motion for a new trial. Dr. England appealed to the Court of Queen's Bench, which Court dismissed the application of the petitioners for judgment and ordered a new trial of the action on the ground that there was *lien de droit* between the plaintiff and the petitioners, although there was no privity of contract between them. The petitioners now applied for special leave to appeal from the decision last mentioned.

Their Lordships granted special leave to appeal.

TRITICUMINA AND TRITICINE.

WE noticed briefly the opening of this case on November 11 in the High Court, before Mr. Justice North. Messrs. Meaby & Co. (Limited), of Castleford, Yorks, applied for an injunction to restrain the infringement by Triticine (Limited) of their trade-mark, "Triticumina," and from passing off their goods, under the name of "Triticine," as being the goods of the plaintiffs. The defendants met the case by a motion seeking to expunge from the register plaintiff's trade-mark on the ground that it was descriptive, and was the name of one of the patented products.

Mr. Bousfield, Q.C., in opening the case for the plaintiffs, said they were manufacturers of meal and infants' food biscuits and other products of corn and flour. They first found that the defendants were using the name "Triticine" about a year ago, but the defendants claimed that they had been selling a product under that name since 1885. The plaintiffs claimed that since 1886 they had sold products

labelled "Triticumina." No one else had sold products so labelled, and for the defendants to sell a similar product under the name of Triticine would obviously create confusion, and lead the public to believe that Triticine was one of the products of the plaintiffs. The plaintiffs had a patent for partially malting grain and then drying it. The product was put into most of the articles sold by the company. Triticine, he was informed, was an inferior class of article, and was calculated to injure the reputation of the plaintiffs.

Evidence having been called in support of the plaintiffs' case,

Mr. Terrell, Q.C., on behalf of the defendants, submitted that there was no case to meet. His learned friend had disproved his own case, and there was no evidence of anything that could be registered as a trade-mark. They could not have a trade-mark in a word by which the patented article was known. He further contended that "Triticumina" ought not to be registered, it being descriptive of the article sold.

Mr. Justice North said there was no doubt a good deal in what Mr. Terrell had said, but they had better go on with the case, as it might be carried elsewhere.

Evidence for the defence was then proceeded with.

The hearing of the case was resumed on Tuesday last, when Mr. Justice North gave judgment. He said in this case the onus was upon the plaintiffs, and, in his opinion, they had failed to satisfy it. The plaintiffs alleged that the word "Triticine" was taken from their trade-mark "Triticumina," and they emphasised that by asking him to grant an injunction on the ground of colourable imitation. He was of opinion it had been shown that this name was not derived from "Triticumina." The defendants contended, and to his mind they had proved, that "Triticine" was a word used by them or their predecessor prior to the registration of the word "Triticumina," or, so far as he knew, before it was invented. He was further not clear that "Triticumina" and "Triticine" were goods in respect of which it was likely that confusion would arise. There was no instance of actual deception. It was said that persons had made mistakes, but those persons were not called; and, in the next place, it was given in evidence that persons who had asked for "Triticine" had refused to take "Triticumina." That tended to show they knew the difference between the two. Under these circumstances, he came to the conclusion that the plaintiffs had not made out their case, and he dismissed the action, but without costs, inasmuch as both parties had kept back witnesses who might have given useful information. Then there was a motion by the defendants to take the plaintiffs' trade-mark off the register on the ground that it was a descriptive word, and further, that it was a word which really described what was the basis of the plaintiffs' patent. Plaintiffs alleged that the word did not describe any one class of article, but the collection of products emanating from the plaintiffs' works. If that was so what was the good of describing the food as a patent. It had been contended that if a substance professed to be patented under a special name, that name could not be registered as a trade-mark, because, if the name of a patented article could be registered as a trade-mark, after the expiration of the patent the patentee would have an unfair advantage in the exclusive use of the name. He would not deal with the motion on this ground; but he observed that it was well settled that a man could not by registering the name of a patented article acquire practically a prolongation of his patent. The question was whether Triticumina was a fancy word within the meaning of the Act. He did not think it was. *Triticum* was the well-known Latin word for wheat, and his Lordship was of opinion that the word Triticumina was obviously intended to be descriptive, and was the exact opposite of a word which the Legislature intended to be used as a trade-mark. He therefore came to the conclusion that the word was not a good subject for a trade-mark, and he consequently allowed the motion to take it off the register with costs to the successful party.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

"FACED" GINGER.

ANNIE PORTER, grocer, was summoned at the Birmingham Police Court on a charge of selling $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of ginger (for which

2d. was paid) which was certified to be deficient to the extent of 25 per cent. in essential constituents. The assumption of the prosecution was that the article had been used for some purpose, probably for making ginger-beer, and had afterwards been doctored for sale. Dr. Hill stated, in addition, that the ginger had been faced with carbonate of lime. This, he said, was a common practice. In cross-examination he said it would be difficult for the retail grocer to know that this ginger was not genuine. The Bench inflicted a fine of 5s. and costs.

A "faced" ginger is, we think, a new allegation. The wording of the summons in this case was curious. It ran, "the said root-ginger then and there containing ash soluble in water 1.2, ash insoluble in water 3.8, moisture and organic matter 95.0, being 25 per cent. less of certain essential constituents than genuine ginger of the lowest quality." Mr. Dale, who appeared for the defendant, produced authorities to show that even experienced pharmacists were not able to state with certainty the difference between genuine samples of low quality and what were stated by analysts to be exhausted.

THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT.

INCORRECT SCALES.

At the Hampstead Petty Sessions last week, Mr. W. Judd, chemist, of Heath Street, was fined 2s. 6d. for having a pair of dispensing-scales in use which would give the customer 4 gr. more than asked for. Defendant said he did not use these scales for "fine work."

AN UNSTAMPED SCALE.

At Church Police Court on November 11, the Altham Benzol Company, trading at Moorfield, Altham, as manufacturing chemists, were summoned under the Weights and Measures Act for having in their possession for use in trade a scale that was unstamped. Inspector Brue, who proved the case, said the scales were used for weighing casks of oil. Mr. W. Irvin, on behalf of the company, said the scales had been borrowed, and he was not aware that they were unstamped. The benzol which they manufactured was sold by measure and not by weight. The Magistrates said the case was not a serious one, and they believed the company had erred in ignorance without any intention to evade the law. They would be fined 5s. and the costs.

COUNTY COURT CASES.

IS A LETTER-BOX A FIXTURE?

At Leicester County Court on November 15, Messrs. T. E. & J. A. Butler, wholesale chemists, sued John Moore, chemist, of Birstall, for 2l. 5s. as an alternative to the return of a letter-box unlawfully detained by him. Messrs. Butler purchased the defendant's chemist and druggist's business, to which was attached a branch post-office, and the dispute arose over the removal of a box used for posting letters, which was affixed in an outer wall. For the defence it was contended that the box was in the nature of a trade-fixture, and as such could be removed on the completion of the purchase, and further that it was Government property, so that defendant was not liable. Ultimately the plaintiffs agreed to reduce the claim to 25s., and the defendant consented to judgment for that amount.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re EDWIN WILSON, formerly in business in Church Street, Preston, as a Chemist and Druggist, and trading as Wilson & Co.

THE public examination of this bankrupt took place at the Preston Bankruptcy Court on November 11. He commenced business in December, 1893, and in January, 1894, took the South Meadow Lane Tavern. He gave up the house twelve months later, having lost 120l., part of which he had borrowed from his brother and part from his father. The other business paid for about a year, but six months later he could not have paid all his debts. He had been in the habit of

betting. The Official Receiver asked how he made bets. Debtor intimated that he sent the money somewhere. The Official Receiver: You simply send your money somewhere and then you never see it again? Debtor said he had lost about 100l. in this way. Debtor's summary statement of affairs showed that his unsecured debts amounted to 895l. 11s. 7d., with 12l. 5s. 2d. for preferential creditors. His assets amounted to 131l. 8s. 1d., stock-in-trade estimated to realise 100l., furniture 15l., and cash in hand 7l. 9s. 9d., being the chief items. The examination was adjourned until December 10.

Re JOHN ORME, 65 Barbican, E.C., and elsewhere, trading as J. Orme & Co.

THE first meeting of creditors was held at the London Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday, before Mr. H. Brougham, Official Receiver, under the failure of John Orme, scientific apparatus manufacturer and dealer, trading at 65 Barbican; Cross Street, Finsbury; and 62 Compton Street, Goswell Road, E.C.; under the style of J. Orme & Co. The debtor commenced in 1879, in partnership with another person, by purchasing his employer's business for 3,500l. The partnership was dissolved in 1891, and shortly afterwards the debtor made a private arrangement with his creditors under which he paid a composition of 7s. 6d. in the pound to certain creditors, others who rejected those terms being paid in full. He continued trading alone at Barbican until last September, when the stock and effects were seized and sold by the landlord for rent in arrears to the amount of 210l. The goods did not realise anything like that amount. The debtor has a patent for advertising tablets, and another for railway signalling. He ascribes his failure to his inability to clear off the composition arrangement, which made him short of capital and impaired his credit. The statement of affairs shows total liabilities 2,453l. 13s. 9d., of which 1,744l. 16s. 3d. are unsecured, and assets valued at 118l. 18s. 1d. In reply to the Chairman the debtor said he could not submit any offer. The case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver to be wound up in bankruptcy. The public examination of the debtor is fixed for December 17. The principal creditors are:—

Unsecured.

	£	s.	d.
Barrett, W., Grantham	211	5	0
Breffit & Co., London	14	6	0
British and Colonial Company, London ...	33	0	0
Burge, P., Hamburg	12	14	6
Clifford, C., London	36	0	0
Delforce, H., London	300	0	0
Eberstein, J., & Co., London	10	14	8
Fletcher, Russell & Co., Warrington ...	10	12	3
Genzel, H., London	47	13	3
Hampland, H., chemical-apparatus maker, Berlin	15	1	0
Herrington Brothers, London	10	0	0
Jackson, E., chemist, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.	487	7	8
Little & Son, London	154	8	1
Moritz & Co., London	10	5	6
Muller, C. E., & Co., London	23	13	6
Orme, Mrs. F., Camberwell	14	0	0
Romany, Mrs. F., Putney	20	10	0
Traffler & Co., London	12	3	7
Williams, J., London	27	18	2
Zimmerman & Co., London	17	19	2

Fully Secured.

Harman Brothers, London	45	0	0
London Banking Corporation, London ...	44	0	0
Pearl Insurance Company, London ...	430	0	0
Rogers, F. M., London	35	0	0

Partly Secured.

Frankford, A., London	25	0	0
Frankford, Mrs. M., London	150	0	0
Howell, H. B., London	25	0	0

Preferential.

Rates and wages	24	17	6
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Re GEORGE WILLIAM STONES, Spring Mount, Pleasington, late Manufacturing Chemist.

THE adjourned public examination of this debtor was held at the last sitting of the Blackburn Bankruptcy Court. Mr.

Heyworth, for the trustee, said certain particulars were asked for at the previous hearing, but the debtor had not yet supplied them, therefore he must ask for a further adjournment. The debtor said he had been working twenty-four hours a day in setting things right for other people. The examination was adjourned.

Deeds of Arrangement.

Chaplin, Arthur, 53 Wilton Street, Aston, near Birmingham, aerated-water manufacturer. Trustee, William R. Heseltine, 5 Doctor Johnson's Passage, Birmingham, accountant. Dated November 5; filed November 9. Liabilities unsecured, 792*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*; estimated net assets, 182*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens.. ..	51	0	0
Chaplin, W., Birmingham	517	0	0
Foxon, Robinson & Co. (Limited), Sheffield ..	14	0	0
Hunt, W., & Sons, Wednesbury	10	0	0
Meadowcroft, Son, & Co. (Limited), Blackburn ..	49	0	0
Megson, A. B., & Son, Liverpool	10	0	0
Redfern Brothers, Barnsley	75	0	0
Taylor, Winterbottom & Co., Wakefield	19	0	0

Schacht, William, 35 Carysforth Road, Stoke Newington, and **George Ludwig August Kuhlmann**, 2 Alkham Road, Stoke Newington, trading at 26 Finsbury Pavement, City, as W. Schacht & Co., chemists and druggists. Trustee, Walter V. Hartley, 35 Eastcheap, City, chartered accountant. Dated November 4; filed November 11. Liabilities unsecured, 2,394*l.* 14*s.* Estimated net assets, 1,317*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Baron Schroder, London	100	0	0
Bunberg, R., London	10	0	0
Fortlage, H. (Tesdaupf & Co.), London ..	100	0	0
Geffcken, J. O., Lubeck	12	0	0
Gunther, C., London	15	0	0
Herrings & Co., London	34	0	0
Kohnlein, —, London	10	0	0
Kosnigs, F., London	15	0	0
Kronenquelle, — (Administration)	£84	0	0
Kuhlemann, Mrs., London	37	0	0
Lockwood T. J., & Co., London	10	0	0
Loewe, S., London	20	0	0
Meggeson & Co., London	13	0	0
Melchers, M., London	10	0	0
Meugel, G., & Co., London	15	0	0
Nannmann, C. G., Leipsic	33	0	0
Newbery & Sons, London	13	0	0
Nicolay & Co., Zurich	19	0	0
Nixon, T., London	111	0	0
Olde, J., London	478	0	0
Richter, Tschuschner & Co., London	about	10	0
Romer, J., & Sohn, Wien	39	0	0
Rommel, A., London	50	0	0
Rommel, F., London	40	0	0
Silverlock, H., London	12	0	0
Sutton, W., & Co., London	13	0	0
Tuchmann, Dr., London	20	0	0
Vandermin Brothers, London	11	0	0
Wiesbadener Brunner Comptoir, Wiesbaden ..	10	0	0
Willows, Francis & Butler, London	30	0	0

Gazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Brown, David, Young, J. R., jun., and Macdonald, Alexander, under the style of J. F. Macfarlan & Co., Edinburgh and London, manufacturing chemists. November 1, by retiral of James Robertson Young, jun., David Brown and Alexander Macdonald continue for their own behoof.

Clegg, J. G., and Clegg, R., under the style of Clegg Brothers, Golborne, aerated and mineral water manufacturers.

Cunningham, A., and Marsh, E., under the style of Cunningham & Marsh, Oldbury, surgeons.

Pearson, C. F., and Fowler, G. W., under the style of Pearson & Fowler, Alexandra Road, Wimbledon, S.W., mineral-water manufacturers.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

Martin, Joseph Henderson, Leicester, surgeon.

New Companies and Company News.

MARRIOTT & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To manufacture, sell, and deal in seltzer, soda, lithia, quinine, potass and other waters, lemonade, ginger-beer, and other non-alcoholic beverages. Registered office, Little Heath, Foleshill, near Coventry.

MILK WINE COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (10,000 "A" and 5,000 "B"). Objects: To acquire certain undescribed rights, and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalts, oil and colour men, &c. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 100 shares.

MANCHESTER MALT VINEGAR COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares, to carry on the business of vinegar makers, sauce and pickle manufacturers, sugar boilers, makers of condiments, jams, jellies, essences, baking and egg powder, &c., chemical manufacturers, druggists' sundriesmen, &c. The regulations of Table "A" in most cases apply. Registered office, Wellington Brewery, Wellington Street, Bradford, Manchester.

J. L. BRAGG (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of manufacturers of charcoal-biscuits and other medicated articles carried on by the executors of J. L. Bragg, deceased, at 14 Wigmore Street, London, W., and to enter into an agreement with Elizabeth Thunder, Alice Spence, and Wilson A. Stuckey. The first directors are John H. Spence, W. A. Stuckey, Mrs. E. Thunder, and C. Williams. Registered office, 14 Wigmore Street, W.

CANTSOL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 900*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To enter into an agreement with James H. Morrison, chemist, of 7 Tudor Street, Liverpool, to manufacture and sell a composition or preparation called "Cantsol," and to carry on the business of chemists and druggists. The first subscribers are:—W. C. Rae, 63 Boro' Road, Birkenhead, dealer; T. H. Bodley, 15 Stafford Street, Liverpool, traveller; E. Maddock, 75 Bedford Road, Birkenhead, agent; A. Hines, 27 Marion Street, Birkenhead, butcher; C. G. Innes, 45 Seymour Street, Liverpool, draper; J. Graham, 20 Gladstone Street, Birkenhead, warehouseman; J. Pryce, 12 Elm Street, Birkenhead, salesman. Registered without articles of association.

W. C. BARNES & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 60,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To enter into an agreement with William A. Mitchell, Henry J. Barnes and Richard L. Barnes, for the acquisition of the business of "W. C. Barnes & Co.," and to carry on the business of wholesale chemical merchants and manufacturers, chemists, druggists, drysalts, oil and colourmen, &c. The first subscribers are:—Wm. A. Mitchell, chemical manufacturer, Henry J. Barnes, chemist, and Richard L. Barnes, chemist, all of Phoenix Chemical-works, Hackney Wick; H. T. G. Garman, 35 Eastcheap, E.C., C.A.; A. B. Mitchell, Danes Hill, Bengoe, Herts, chemist; James Prichard, 44a Portland Place North, Clapham Road, S.W., gentleman; A. S. Way, 24 Edale Road, Rotherhithe, S.E., clerk. The said three vendors are to be directors for life, provided that they continue to hold 1,000 shares each. Remuneration, as fixed by agreement.

IDRIS & Co. (LIMITED).—The ordinary general meeting of this company was held on November 12, in the Board Room of the works, at Pratt Street, Camden Town. Mr. T. H. W. Idris, J.P., L.C.C. (Chairman of the company) presided, and was supported by Mr. Adpar Jones and Mr. E. K. Bishop (directors), Mr. Baptie, Mr. John Hick, Mr. Jas. Bradford, Mr. W. P. Parry, Mr. J. Robbins, and others. The Secretary (Mr. T. P. Chubb) read the report and balance-sheet, which the Chairman, in moving their adoption, referred to in detail. Mr. Idris said that notwithstanding a rather short season for mineral-water—cold spring, wet autumn, and a disappointing Jubilee trade—the output of the company had shown a good increase. The profits for the year ending September 30 (after charging interest on debentures and writing off depreciations) were 12,017*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*, which

with 798*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* brought forward from 1896, made the total standing to the credit of the profit-and-loss account 12,816*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* The directors consequently recommended this sum to be appropriated as follows:—Dividend of 6 per cent. upon A preference shares, 7 per cent. on the B preference shares, 10 per cent. on both A and B ordinary shares, and 5 per cent. on the founder's shares. The branch establishments of the company at Southampton and Liverpool were progressing, and it was hoped that the extended premises of the former would be completed for the commencement of the next season's trade. The Liverpool branch, which had only been started a few months, showed satisfactory results. The directors had also purchased a freehold estate consisting of over 1,100 acres, at Cader Idris. On this there was a large supply of exceedingly-pure water and abundant water-power, and from which generally good things were anticipated. On the question of a reserve fund, the directors had considered it wiser to strengthen this fund than to declare large dividends at present, and this was the policy they intended to pursue until they had a reserve-fund of sufficient strength to meet any emergency. At present the reserve-fund stood at 25,000*l.* After paying the above-mentioned dividends, it was recommended that 500*l.* go to the profit-sharing and benevolent funds organised with so much success for the benefit of the workers, and that 1,168*l.* be carried forward to the next account. The issue of 50,000 A preference shares had been eagerly sought for, and their stockbroker (Mr. Baptie) had assured him that so popular was the company that the stock might have been disposed of three times over. He (the Chairman) consequently had pleasure in moving the adoption of the report and accounts (the latter showing the assets at 211,966*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*). This was seconded by Mr. Bradford and carried *nem. con.* Mr. Parry, in moving the re-election of the auditors (Messrs. Hill, Vellacott & Co.), remarked with satisfaction on the self-denial of the founders in only taking 5 per cent. on their shares, in order to strengthen the reserve-fund. Mr. A. J. Hill returned thanks for re-election, and added that the directors of this company were working upon a most satisfactory basis—building up a large business, but taking the very wise precaution of having a substantial reserve rather than extraordinary dividends. Mr. T. P. Baptie, in an interesting speech, told how the Idris shares had been appreciated by the Stock Exchange Committee, and how well they had been taken up. There was every reason for the Idris Company to be satisfied with the high esteem in which they were held by the public. Thanks to the Chairman and directors closed the proceedings. Mr. Idris, in reply, assured the shareholders that all his strength, and what little ability he possessed, would be used in fortifying and building up the Idris Company and in generally safeguarding their interests. The shareholders then took advantage of the invitation to inspect the various departments of the extensive works, and, as a result, appeared to be generally pleased.

The P.A.T.A.

MEETING AT CHESTER.

A MEETING was held in the Grosvenor Hotel, Chester, on Tuesday evening, to discuss the P.A.T.A. and the advisability of forming a local chemists' association for the district. Mr. George Kemp (Chester) was voted to the chair, and the attendance included Messrs. W. S. Glyn-Jones (London), W. F. J. Shephard, J. H. Spencer, A. Shrubsole, W. Turner, Simon, Hopley, and Owen (Mr. J. W. Huhe), Chester; Caldecott, Rowlands, and Sloan (Eddisbury & Co.), Wrexham.

Dr. Charles Symes, of Liverpool, in a letter apologising for absence, said he was glad to know that Mr. Glyn-Jones was steadily and persistently going forward with the work he had taken in hand, and he assured him of his best wishes for successful results in the accomplishment of the legitimate objects of the Association. Much had been done, much remained to be done, and for the accomplishment of that, not only members and subscriptions were required but organised local help. He had noticed on several occasions lately that travellers having goods for sale mention among

the merits of such "that they were on the protected list." That seemed to indicate that some weight was attached to such a statement by buyers, and that the Association was steadily progressing. Mr. J. Rymer Young, of Warrington, also regretted his inability to be present, remarking that he was in complete sympathy with Mr. Glyn-Jones.

Mr. Glyn-Jones, in explaining the objects of the meeting, said there was an idea that the main object of the Association was to arrange with proprietors the prices at which certain quack medicines, as they were termed, should be sold. The term "proprietary articles," however, comprised a much wider and much more important range of articles than simply patent medicines. He contended that this was the only organised attempt made to compete with the unfair and unscrupulous competition with which they were so familiar. The efforts of capitalists to do away with the individual trader were being increased daily, and unless chemists dealt with all matters which affected them the capitalists were bound to have the pull over them. The success of the P.A.T.A. was proved, he maintained, by the excited efforts made by their enemies to prove their failure. If these stores could get supplies so easily as they said they could, their appeals to proprietors were difficult to understand.

In the course of the discussion that followed, the gentlemen from Wrexham expressed their willingness to join any association that might be formed. Mr. Shephard expressed the opinion that the formation of an association locally would be to the advantage of chemists. Mr. Glyn-Jones said, although that meeting was not largely attended, he had received many assurances of support from the chemists he had called upon in the city. Mr. Spencer contended that it was impossible for chemists to get a living wage unless they charged more than certain people were charging. He suggested that it would be a good idea for chemists to occasionally buy patent medicines from those grocers who sold them for less than they paid for them. In reply to a question, Mr. Glyn-Jones said of course if they formed a local chemists' association it would not follow that they embraced the principles or methods of the P.A.T.A.

It was ultimately decided, on the proposition of Mr. Spencer, that it was advisable to form a chemists' association for Chester and district to further the interests of the trade generally; and Mr. W. F. J. Shephard, the local Honorary Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, was asked to make the necessary preliminary arrangements.

With regard to the P.A.T.A., Mr. Shephard asked what a chemist was to do if a doctor ordered a certain patent medicine which was not on the protected list, and which he and the other chemists in the town had decided not to stock.

Mr. Glyn-Jones admitted that in a case of that kind the chemist would have to sell the article required.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Shrubsole—

That this meeting expresses its approval of the P.A.T.A., and respectfully urges on all proprietors the advisability of co-operating with the movement.

A meeting of Chester grocers was held on Wednesday evening. More than twenty of the prominent grocers of the city attended, and all joined the P.A.T.A. before leaving.

From the Poets.

THE costs of drugs and medicines
Are having such a fall,
Cut prices will bring sicknesses
Within the reach of all.

* * * *

I thought as $C_2H_5NO_2$ her brows,
And gazed in her eyes free from guile,
There's much truth in the proverb that says:
"A miss is as good as C_3H_{11} ."

* * * *

THERE was a young lady called Margery,
Whose head was a walking menagerie.
Folks said, "You should wash,"
But she answered, "Oh, bosh!"
I'll apply some unguentum hydrargyri."

Marriages.

LANDOE—SHARP.—On November 10, at St. John's Church, Ladywood, Birmingham, by the Rev. A. R. Moss (vicar), William Ernest Landor, chemist and druggist, eldest son of William Landor, Bradford House, Ladywood, to Gertrude, second daughter of William Sharp, Sunnyside, Edgbaston.

MCKERLIE—EDGAR.—At the Assembly Rooms, Dumfries, on November 8, by the Rev. R. W. Weir, Greyfriars', assisted by the Rev. David Black, Virginhall, John McKerlie, chemist and druggist, Thornhill, second son of the late John McKerlie, Cample Mills, to Edith, second daughter of Mr. Irving Edgar, Ferguslea, Maxwelltown.

Deaths.

BRISCOE.—On October 30, Mr. Charles Briscoe, chemist and druggist, West Firie, Sussex, aged 70.

FLETCHER.—On November 7, Mr. William Burman Fletcher, chemist and druggist, at his residence, St. James Street, Liverpool. The deceased was well known amongst the Oddfellows, being Grand Master of the British Fleet Lodge. Some twenty of the brethren attended his funeral.

HINDLE.—On November 2, Mr. James Hindle, chemist and druggist, Blackburn, aged 52.

OPIE.—On October 28, Mr. Thomas Tresize Opie, chemist and druggist, St. Agnes, Cornwall, aged 79.

TUPHOLME.—At the residence of her brother-in-law, Mr. George Needham, Kimberley, S.A., Edith Ann Tupholme, aged 26½ years, the beloved wife of J. J. Tupholme, chemist, Vryburg, British Bechuanaland, and formerly of Spilsby, Lincolnshire.

UPTON.—On November 9, Mr. E. J. Upton, who established the business of a chemist and druggist in Wallingford 36 years ago, which he carried on successfully until about a year ago, when he retired. He was a charity trustee, a director of the local building society, and a member of several other public bodies.

WISKEN.—On November 2, Mr. Robert Wisken, chemist and druggist, Herne Hill, London, S.E., aged 62.

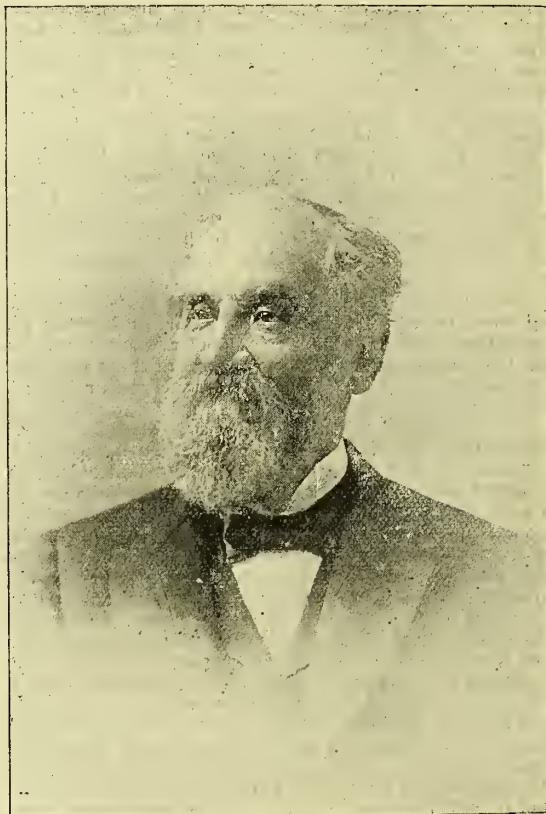
The Late H. G. Hotchkiss.

WE reported last week the death on October 27 last, at the age of 87 years, of Hiram Gilbert Hotchkiss, whose HIGH American peppermint oil has been a standard brand as far back as most pharmacists in this country and in America can remember.

Mr. Hotchkiss was a most interesting man to know personally, and his business career was also a notable one. He was of remarkable stature, and had been extremely handsome. At Lyons, Wayne County, New York, where he had lived for over fifty years, he entertained friends and business rivals with equal hospitality. He was politically a very strong Democrat, and could not be moved from his opinions. But he was generous to a fault. He had a large farm, whereon he raised fruit, vegetables, and poultry in great numbers. His poor neighbours for miles round were welcome to what they wanted from this farm, and many of them would take what they wanted without going through the formality of asking for it.

H. G. Hotchkiss was 18 and his brother Leman 16 when their father died, seventy years ago. They at once took over the management of the extensive mills, stores, and lands which constituted their wealth at Phelps, a village in Ontario County, New York State. This place was on the borders of Wayne County, and the Hotchkiss Stores took produce and supplied goods to the farmers and others of the whole district. About the year 1840 a pedlar named Burnett noticed peppermint growing wild in Wayne County, and knew its value. He

taught the farmers how to distil it, and it became a good little industry. Most of this oil found its way into Hotchkiss's stores, and when he had got in hand a few thousand dollars' worth he went to New York to sell it. His oil was in tin cans, but the dealers would not bid for it. Hotchkiss thereupon bought up a lot of 21-oz. ink-bottles, which he filled with the oil, had labels printed setting forth that the contents were "guaranteed pure oil of peppermint by H. G. and L. B. Hotchkiss, of Phelps, Ontario County, N.Y., U.S.A." He then shipped the lot to a firm he knew in Holland. The oil was soon sold, and it is said that a good bit of it came



back to New York at a much higher price than it had been offered to the buyers there by Mr. Hotchkiss. In time orders came from all parts of Europe, and the business was soon a valuable one. Mr. Hotchkiss began to grow the peppermint himself, and was one of the largest landholders in Wayne County. He moved to Lyons, where he erected great buildings, and, it is said, supplied—always in those special bottles—some 150,000 lbs. or more of oil annually. Some 6,000 acres in Wayne County are devoted to this culture.

Mr. Hotchkiss celebrated his golden wedding in 1883, but he lost his wife the next year. He had twelve children, ten of whom grew up and were married. In 1878 Mr. Hotchkiss visited London, and was taken on 'Change, where the London druggists heartily received him, and highly complimented him on the quality of his products. He was much gratified by the reception, and in reply to some remarks said, "If I had been guilty of fraud or adulteration I would not have been here receiving your congratulations."

WORSE THAN CUTTING—A West-end chemist writes (we are almost afraid sarcastically) as follows:—"Heartfelt sympathy will undoubtedly be extended to Messrs. Lewis & Burrows—the popular store chemists—for the serious loss they suffered on Saturday night. In the stillness of the night, at their premises in New Oxford Street, some nefarious person stealthily entered and regaled himself with 35l. or more of the shareholders' money. Where was the night staff?"

Novelties.

GYNÆCOPATHIC SOLOIDS.

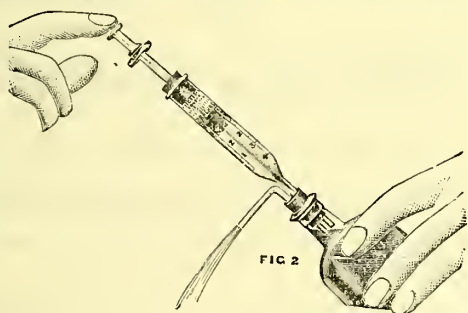
GYNÆCOLOGICAL treatment is now having a department of therapeutics for itself; hence the gynæcopathic soloids which Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. have recently added to their list of manufactures. Three specimens have come to us—viz, zinc and tannin compound, sodium bichloride compound, and alum compound—each having a special use in treatment. One or more soloid make a pint of irrigation fluid. We have tested them for solubility, and find in all cases that they disintegrate quickly; and those which are completely soluble make clear solutions.

"LABERN" SACHETS.

MESSRS. H. LABERN & SON, perfumers, Jenner Road, Stoke Newington, N., have shown us a new series of sachets which they have just brought out, and which will be good for Christmas trade. The sachet-powder is placed in an artistically-designed envelope, which, in addition to the usual printed matter, has embossed on it a tiny label, the rococo border of which is in coloured relief, and the printing in colours and gold. The envelope is tied with silk ribbon. The sachets, which retail at 6d., are put up in dozen show-cases with easel-back for facilitating counter-display. The odours, by the way, are in excellent keeping with the general get-up of the sachets. One of the firm's strong points is that they use on their goods only labels produced in the best styles of colour-printing, and in their perfumes they offer the trade a varied selection to choose from, and to which they attach the retailer's own name when desired. The variety is such that each retailer can have designs for exclusive use in his district.

RHEINBERG'S SELF-ACTING LIQUIDOMETER.

THIS is a small instrument, on the syringe principle, for measuring small quantities of medicines and other liquids before they leave the bottle. The body of the syringe is

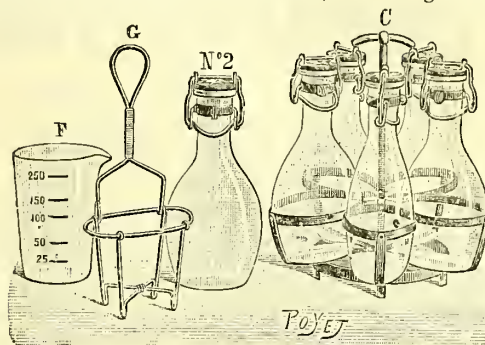


graduated to drachms, and by tilting the bottle and working the piston the syringe receives the required quantity of liquid, which the operator then ejects through the small horizontal tube. Mr. James J. Hicks has undertaken the agency for it.

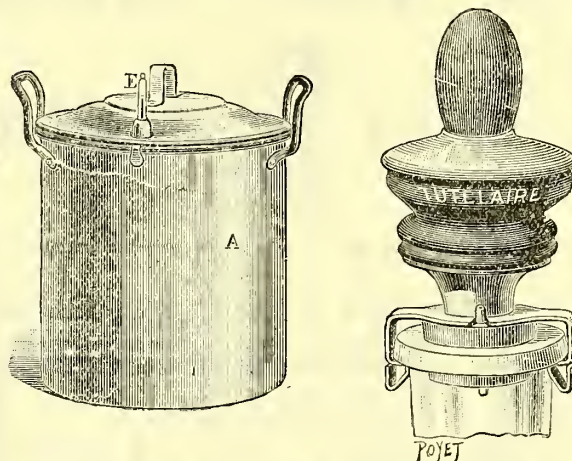
INFANT-FEEDING.

MR. JAMES J. HICKS, 8 Hatton Garden, E.C., is introducing into this country M. Louis Contant's system of milk—"Pasteurisation." It is claimed for this method that, instead of raising the temperature of the milk to 212° F. for forty to fifty minutes, as is done in sterilisation, the maximum temperature to which the milk is heated is about 170°, and that for a moment only. This is sufficient to destroy all organisms, but does not change the composition of the milk. The apparatus is shown in the accompanying illustration. The cruet accommodates six bottles with a capacity of 6 fl. oz. each. The vulcanite stoppers with rubber washers

are kept tight with the familiar wire-clip arrangement, and this hermetically seals the bottle. The cruet containing the bottles, which have been previously filled with milk, is placed in the enamelled-iron steamer, containing less than



a pint of water, which does not come into actual contact with the bottles. An aperture is provided in the lid of the canteen, which allows the thermometer and holder to project, so as to be easily examined. The steamer is now placed on a stove, and whenever the thermometer registers the proper degree of heat, the cruet containing the bottles is



taken from the pot and the whole immersed in cold water. The process is now complete, and the bottles are taken out of the water separately, as required for use. The apparatus is known as "La Tutélaire," and the process comes well recommended. It won the prize of 5,000f. in an open competition instituted by *Le Journal*, in 1896, and was awarded the Grand Prize at the National Exhibition, Paris, 1897. In the "Tutélaire" teat the same inventor has tried to imitate Nature as far as possible, and the object he seeks to attain is to provide an article through which it will be impossible for the child to suck air. The tube which usually projects into the bottle is wanting, and the stopper is provided with a small capillary hole which allows the air to enter the bottle as the milk is drawn out. By a little manipulation on the part of the nurse, the teat is entirely filled with the liquid food, so that, whenever the lips are applied to it, milk and milk only is drawn into the mouth. Care requires to be taken that the bottle is always tilted so that the mouth of the bottle is below the surface of the liquid. If this is not done the invention defeats its own ends, as nothing but air can come through the teat. The "Tutélaire" teat is very soft and flexible, made of good rubber, and can very easily be turned inside out, whenever required to be cleaned. The holes are of the variety known as leechbite.

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No. 1 Finest Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	16/ * cwt.	Finest Pure STARCH POWDER	19/ * cwt.
No. 2 Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	14/ * cwt.	No. 1 Finest Light Pure PRECIPITATED CHALK	25/ * cwt.
BEST CLEANED LINSEED	15/ * cwt.	No. 2 Pure PRECIPITATED CHALK	21/ * cwt.
No. 1 Finest Pure FULLER'S EARTH (Light Colour)	15/ * cwt.	"WHITE EARTH" Specially prepared for Toilet purposes.	18/ * cwt.
No. 2 Pure FULLER'S EARTH	12/ * cwt.	Finest Pure TOILET OATMEAL, SPECIAL	3/ lb.
Pure LIQUORICE	10/ lb.	Best Pure ARROWROOT	9/ lb. in tins.

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Editorial + + **Comments**

**WHAT IS THE PATENT-MEDICINE
 TRADE WORTH?**

A CHEMIST, with a fair business in the suburbs of a large city, sent to us lately a list, as nearly as he could give it, of the so-called patent medicines sold by him in the year. The total did not reach 200 packets. It did not, of course, include his own proprietaries, nor did it include the multitude of proprietary articles other than medicines—such as foods, perfumes, cocoas, disinfectants, filters, feeding-bottles, and other articles—which must enter into the stock of every

chemist and druggist to a greater or less extent, and which are all proprietary. But a sale of only some 200 "patent medicines" yearly struck us as an exceptionally small proportion, and we made a remark to that effect at the time. This week Mr. James Reid, of Dumfries, whose disposition to give the *alteram partem* a show has often been manifested in our columns, challenges our statement, and thinks such a limited share of the patent-medicine business is a not unfrequent experience among the chemists of large towns, and he suggests that chemists should send us statements from all parts of the country telling us what proportion of their whole business the "patent" part represents. He might have set the example himself, but omitted to do so.

About a year ago, when the P.A.T.A. discussion was lively in our columns—Mr. Boot, Mr. Day, and Mr. Glyn-Jones being the most prominent of the combatants—a hypothetical statement made in one of Mr. Boot's letters led Mr. Glyn-Jones to draw the inference that something like 2s. 6d. in the pound of the returns of Mr. Boot's companies were derived from their own specialties, and it was assumed at that time, and not disputed by anybody, that about half of a chemist's gross returns were from proprietary articles of one sort or another. It would certainly be interesting to ascertain how near this estimate may be to the truth generally. But, confining ourselves for the moment to the trade in stamped medicines, let us ascertain, first, what the average sales of a licensed dealer are. This is easily calculated from the Inland Revenue returns. The stamp-revenue for the year ending March 31 last amounted to 254,726*l.* If that had all been in 1½*d.* stamps, it would have represented 40,756,160 packets of patent medicines. To distribute these there were 32,473 licensed patent-medicine vendors. The average sales of these retailers were, therefore, 1,255 packets per annum. Each licence represents a single shop, be it remembered; and makers, wholesale dealers, grocers, and little hucksters who break open packets are all counted among the licensees. This, to some extent, balances the error in our assumption that all the stamps are 1½*d.* ones; but, allowing fully for all deductions, it may be taken as certain that the average sales of every licensed vendor of stamped medicines exceed 1,000 packets per annum. One thing more has to be said. Keenly as grocers and other tradesmen have fought for this trade, and neglectful to a large extent as chemists have been of it, it may still be assumed, without any hesitation, that, in ordinary cases, chemists do the principal part of the business. The chemist's shop is the place where, as a matter of course, the public think of going for their pills or cough-balsams, and where they must go for those which contain any scheduled poison. So that we should take it to be the fact that, on the whole, the ordinary chemist's average sale of stamped medicines is considerably greater than is that of his neighbour the grocer.

But even suppose a chemist whose trade in stamped medicines is as much above the average as our first correspondent's was below it, what a poor little trade this patent-medicine trade is! The sale of 2,000 packets of other people's stamped medicines a year, which we suppose would only be likely where pretty close cutting had been resorted to, can hardly bring in a net 10%. That would allow rather more than a clear penny profit on each. If prices could be so protected as to double this profit all round, the total would hardly pay the errand-boy's wages. The difference the protected rates would make to the chemist who sells 200 packets a year is 16s. 8*d.*

These figures go some way towards justifying Mr. Reid's cynical congratulations to the chemist who had so reduced his patent-medicine trade. But we think this is hardly the

right way to look at the subject. First, it must be remembered that stamped medicines are only a small section of the proprietary-articles business; secondly, that it is of an importance far greater than the profits on patent medicines that chemists should keep to themselves the business in all kinds of medicines; and, thirdly, that to neglect or despise this branch will not check in an appreciable degree the progress of the trade. Advertising will retain its vast power, and put-up medicines will be the same convenience to the public, whether chemists look with favour on them or not. We do not advocate that they should sell any which they firmly believe to be injurious, but this can only apply to a very few. As a matter of business there is too much depending on the trade to justify chemists, with but few exceptions, in driving so much of it to the grocers and stores.

RECTIFICATION OF THE REGISTER.

THE publication of the list of names of chemists and druggists and pharmaceutical chemists in the last issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (page 767) may be again referred to because the majority of individuals will be perfectly sure that their names are not upon it, therefore that they need not waste time reading it. The astonishing thing about the list is the number of quite familiar names in it, and how many have wandered to outlandish parts in the course of a few years. We observe a Twinberrow in the list, erstwhile of Wigmore Street, and from whose pharmacy there are men all over the world. It will be strange if none can tell the Registrar where he is. And so with many others on the list. We understand that the process by which the list is compiled is substantially as follows:—The Registrar sends a paper or something to each one on the register once or twice a year, and if any of these is returned through the dead-letter office a letter is then sent by registered post, this letter being repeated if in six months there is no reply to it. The registered letters are a statutory requirement which must be rigidly adhered to by the Registrar. We are, therefore, surprised to receive from an English chemist on the Continent a letter from which we quote the following:—

On receiving the *C. & D.* this morning I was very much astonished and annoyed to find my name in the list of chemists and druggists to be erased from the register. What reason the Pharmaceutical Society can have I don't know. I also noticed in the list the name of a friend who only passed about two years ago, and who is on the doomed-list. I write this to warn young men, and old ones too, for that matter, as all are liable to be put on the list. I was under the impression that the Registrar was obliged to write at least two letters to the person before taking his name from the register, but certainly in my case he did not write one, or I should have received it, as my father is the owner of the house at the address given.

There may be a mistake here which the Registrar can explain, but it is only fair to him to say that he is required by Statute to keep "a correct register," and publication of the list is the penultimate step in a two-yearly revision for that purpose. There may be others like our continental correspondent on the list, but generally the lists are made up of the names of persons who have left their registered addresses without informing the Registrar of the fact. It often happens that Minor-examination candidates are registered where they lodged while preparing for the Minor examination, and they are so elated by getting on the register that they quite forget about keeping on it. The names of such bulk largely in the list. It is always possible, of course, to be restored to the register on payment of a guinea fee, but it is as well that those who are named in the list on page 767 should note that all they are required to do is to acquaint the Registrar with their present address, and if this is done before December 30 no fee is demanded.

TAXING THE JOHANNESBURG CHEMISTS.

SOME considerable time ago an Industrial Commission of Investigation was appointed in the Transvaal to inquire into the causes of the commercial depression existing on the Rand and to suggest remedies. On July 27 that Commission issued a lengthy report recommending various sweeping reforms, such as the removal of the dynamite monopoly, a general reduction of railway rates, and an all-round lowering of the Customs duties. The report was referred for consideration to a committee of the first Volksraad, which reported upon it to Mr. Kruger's Government on October 18. The recommendations of the Raad have caused intense disappointment among the business people of Johannesburg, which is not surprising, considering they bear only a faint resemblance to the measures asked for by the Industrial Commission. It is true that the Raad committee recommends a decrease in transit dues, a decrease in the price of dynamite by 10s. per case (which will mean a yearly saving to the gold industry of 100,000*l.*), a reduction of the rates of carriage of goods by rail equal to 200,000*l.* a year, and sundry other reforms, as well as the freeing of certain foodstuffs from Customs duty; but, on the other hand, it is proposed to increase the Customs duties on many goods which we suppose are looked upon as "luxuries" by the Boer part of the Transvaal population. It is this last-named suggestion that provokes the special indignation of the Johannesburgers. Among the "luxuries" on which it is proposed to levy a duty, or to increase the existing one, are several imported by druggists. It is proposed, for instance, to raise the tariff on liquids containing over 56° of alcohol (Tralle) from 20*s.* to 25*s.* per gal. That means an increase in the price of Eau de Cologne. The duty on coffee, the Boer's drink, is to be reduced; but that on tea, an "Uitlander" beverage, is to be raised from 5*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*, and that on cocoa, chocolate or coffee, mixed with milk, to 25*s.*, per 100*lbs.* The tax on jams, preserves, jellies, honey, and all other articles preserved in sugar, is to be advanced from 25*s.* to 40*s.* per 100*lbs.* A duty of 5*d.* a pound on jam will not hurt the Boer, but it can hardly make the Johannesburg Uitlander better disposed towards Mr. Kruger's Government. All perfumed oils of less than 11° alcohol (Tralle), and all perfumes and toilet articles, are to be made "specially" dutiable to the extent of 12½ per cent. *ad val.*, and opium is to pay 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb. One of the most extraordinary proposals is to put a duty of 1*s.* a dozen on empty bottles. This is done specially with an eye to the enormous consumption of aerated waters, and this single item alone is expected to bring in 35,000*l.* a year.

The Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and other representative bodies have passed resolutions declaring the proffered concessions to be entirely inadequate, and asking that the recommendations of the Industrial Investigation Commission may be passed into law in their entirety. One of the speakers pointed out that, whereas on the basis of last year's imports the proposed reductions in the tariff would amount to 71,680*l.*, the increased duties would bring in 104,635*l.*

The suggested increase in the duty on bottles is especially irksome to the Rand pharmacists, and the Executive of the Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society have entered their protest against it. The suggestion appears to be due to the wish of the Transvaal Government to protect a bottle-works which has been started in the country by the firm of Lewis & Marks. But there are about half-a-dozen mineral-water makers who will suffer, and the Boer will have to pay an extra penny on the Dutch medicines he so largely consumes. It is thought that the latter consideration may still prevail

with Mr. Kruger to take off the bottle-duty again. A rather neat hit at two notorious characteristics of the governing party at Pretoria was made at the Chamber of Commerce meeting by a Mr. Lucas, who, speaking on the proposed increased soap-duty, suggested that there was such an excess of godliness in Pretoria that cleanliness was at a corresponding discount there. It is to be feared, however, that neither protests nor sarcasms, nor even the suggestion that all the Johannesburg traders should close their shops for a few days and hold a monster-demonstration at Pretoria in favour of reform, will have much effect upon Oom Paul. He holds the thick end of the stick and will do as he pleases, not because it is right, but simply "*parce que c'est son bon plaisir.*"

CARBOLIC ACID AND MEDICAL MEN.

We are glad to see the *British Medical Journal* taking a very decided attitude in reference to the scheduling of carbolic acid. It is generally understood that the Privy Council authorities have some pet scheme of declaring this most deadly of all substances a sort of half-poison. The compromise is an absurd and an illogical one. Either the Pharmacy Act and its schedule of poisons should be repealed altogether, or carbolic acid should be on it, and we doubt if the Privy Council will have the courage to submit in definite form the proposal for a middle course. "For years past," says the *B.M.J.*,

carbolic acid has been pre-eminent as a cause of death by accident and misuse, but from a legal point of view it is not a poison. More deaths are caused by carbolic acid than by any single article in the schedule of substances placed under restriction by the Pharmacy Act, and fifteen years ago that fact had become so obvious that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, in the performance of its public duty, submitted to the Privy Council a recommendation that carbolic acid should be added to the schedule of legal poisons. That recommendation of the body entrusted by Act of Parliament with the duty of providing for public safety in the matter of poisons has not yet been acted upon, although it has been repeatedly endorsed by various authorities, and the fatal consequences of its practical disregard have been manifest from the constant reports of cases in which death by accident or suicide has been due to carbolic acid. Nor has there been any attempt to furnish a satisfactory explanation of reasons—if such there can be—for not adopting the recommendation to add carbolic acid to the poison schedule. Even the suggestion that the utility of carbolic acid as a disinfectant should preclude any restriction of its sale has never been put forward officially, and the long-continued hesitation of the Privy Council to confirm the recommendation made by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society remains quite inexplicable.

There is nothing new in the facts cited, and we have had such convincing evidence of the apathy of the Privy Council that we have begun to doubt whether any amount of repetition will rouse that body. But we welcome the expressions of the *British Medical Journal* especially because we may be sure that if the medical and pharmaceutical bodies, supported as they must be by the intelligent common sense of the country, declare against the dangerous Whitehall half measure it will have no chance of being adopted.

COUNCIL-DIFFICULTIES.

The Royal Photographic Society suffers from the same complaint as the Pharmaceutical Society—it has a Council into which it is exceedingly difficult to infuse new blood. Therefore some of the members have taken a hint from pharmaceutical proceedings, and have suggested at a recent meeting of the Society that a certain proportion of the members should retire periodically, just as pharmaceutical examiners have to; but the proposal was defeated and the R.P.S. will go on in the old way. What would happen if the proposal were applied to the Pharmaceutical Council? There

is little chance of new men getting into it or even coming forward so long as the veterans hold on. The Council lives on tradition, and can never possibly make up to the pharmaceutical spirit of the day if rejuvenation is done at the rate of a chair per year. Will they give way to associates?

NEW EXAMINERS.

We are reminded by the foregoing of the fact that within a few weeks the Pharmaceutical Council has to choose several new examiners for Edinburgh and London. This is the most ticklish job the Council has to do during the whole year, for while the applicants are numerous (especially north of the Tweed) the qualifications too rarely come above par. It is now half understood that wholesale men are debarred from the appointments, which narrows the selection considerably, because there are comparatively few smart retail pharmacists who can afford to leave their businesses for eight or ten days at a time, even although the remuneration is between 100% and 150% a year. It is exactly such men who make the best examiners, for there is much in common between the selection of an assistant and the examination of a candidate. Since the inclusion of professional botanists and chemists on the Boards there is less room on them for pharmacists who have distinguished themselves by chemical investigations, which qualification is supposed by many applicants to be sufficient reason for selection. It is certainly a better qualification than a course of scientific cramming before appointment (a not altogether rare achievement), but general familiarity with the subjects of the Minor and Major examinations, combined with imperturbable temper, common sense, and gentlemanly address, are the qualifications which should ultimately determine the selection of pharmacists as examiners; and these are the very things which a council has difficulty in finding out. The Executive of the North British Branch, who retain the nomination of Scotch examiners, some time ago appointed a committee to consider the qualifications of likely persons, and their report is looked forward to with considerable interest, for there are men from East, West and North who are both eligible and willing to act, but only two vacancies to fill. Hence the interest.

THE METRIC MEASURES IN THE B.P.

An interesting item in connection with the preparation of the new British Pharmacopoeia is given in the November number of the *Journal de Pharmacie et de Chemie*. It may not be generally known that there is at Paris an International Committee of Weights and Measures. At the last session of this Committee held on April 17 last, Mr. Chaney, of the Standards Department of the Board of Trade, the English delegate, submitted on behalf of the General Medical Council a request for advice on the following point. The metric litre is a cubic decimetre of pure water at its maximum density—namely, 4° C. (39.2° F.). English chemists and pharmacists, however, are in the habit of using glass measures graduated at 15.5° C., so that an English measure of 100 c.c., for example, would contain 100 grammes of water at 15.5° C., which would be equivalent to about 100.16 grammes at 4° C. The International Committee discussed this subject and passed a number of resolutions to the general effect that, while they saw no scientific or metrological objection to the adoption and graduation of measures of so many cubic centimetres capacity, they objected very definitely to any interference with the exact value of a litre. A measure of 1,000 c.c. at 15.5° C. should be so designated, and should not by any means be described as a litre measure.

UGANDA ARROW-POISON.

The Marquis of Salisbury, in his capacity as Foreign Secretary, is interesting himself in the poisoned arrows used by the natives of Uganda, and has asked the Royal College of Physicians to assist him in the matter. He has got a supply of the arrows, and Dr. Sims Woodhead, the director

of the research-laboratories of the Royal Colleges, is now working on the subject. The result should be interesting, especially if the poison is new, for the last arrows from Central Africa to be examined put Professor T. R. Fraser on the track of *strophanthus*, with the result that the drug has been added to our materia medica.

"TAKE AWAY THOSE ORDERS."

"We are very anxious to buy in Britain so far as that is possible," writes an Australian subscriber, while thanking us for giving him the addresses of some British manufacturers of goods which he had previously bought in Germany, "but we cannot always get served properly." And by way of illustrating his meaning he encloses cuttings from N.S.W. papers, containing interviews with Mr. Samuel Hordern, of Sydney, who has just returned to Australia after a Jubilee-trip to the Old Country. Mr. Hordern is the Australian Universal Provider, and a man who built up a business such as his is likely to form a shrewd opinion of business-matters. Mr. Hordern's "impressions of England" are highly flattering to this country. But he thinks we are too prosperous. "Trade is very brisk in England just now," he says. "I wanted certain goods manufactured, but the manufacturers would not book the orders because they were too busy to lay down the necessary machinery, and therefore I was compelled to go abroad when I would rather have left orders in Great Britain." Then Mr. Hordern went on to say: "So much business is done in England that colonial purchasers have to take what they make, for the British have no time to lay themselves out to make specially what the colonies need." This, and the fact that the superfluity of business in this country removes from us the necessity of laying down new and more machinery, gives foreign manufacturers an opportunity to secure an opening. So Mr. Hordern thinks. We are evidently on our way back towards the good old times when Mincing Lane merchants, it is said, used to put up the notice: "Orders accepted only on Mondays, from 10 to 11."

THE NEW PHOTOGRAPHY.

The photographic-exhibition season is now over, and the one substantial thing which has come out of it is the gum bichromate process. It has been vilified, but the feeling remains that it is a step in advance, and something which all artistic photographers, no matter what school they may adhere to, must learn some day. When that is the case the process is likely to make great strides, as it has possibilities which cannot be developed to the full while the process is confined to a small ring of workers. Another outcome of the exhibition-season has been better appreciation of "fuzziness"; it has a place in artistic photography undoubtedly, but when obtained by mechanical means (e.g., as by enlargement) it is both inartistic and unsatisfying.

Note on Water-analysis.

By D. B. DOTT, Ph.C.

QUITE recently the Solicitor-General for Scotland, in giving an opinion on licensing-law, added, "But I am aware that equal, if not greater, authority takes another view." One would like to hear Dr. Thresh say something similar on the significance of nitric nitrogen in water. There is certainly considerable authority for attaching importance to that item. Let us premise that chemical analysis cannot in every case easily decide the fate of a water. There are samples which one readily pronounces to be good, and others which are as readily condemned; but there is a doubtful class whose peculiarities constitute a difficulty, and require all the facts of the case to be taken into consideration before arriving at a decision. It is then that particular attention must be paid

to the situation and probable contaminations of the well or spring. An amount of chlorine which would be normal in one district would at once excite suspicion in another. Nitric nitrogen may possibly be present in a good water to the extent of 16 parts per million (as alleged), but that is certainly not a usual or common condition. If I found a water with that amount of nitrogen in a situation where contamination was probable, I should certainly condemn the water in the absence of proof of its innocence. As a case in point, the samples Nos. 22 and 23 were condemned because of their proportion of nitric nitrogen; but the wells were situated in gardens and very near houses, while a well in the immediate neighbourhood, and above suspicion, was found to indicate no nitrogen or mere traces. Again, in No. 27 the amounts of free and albuminoid ammonia would not condemn, but the high percentage of nitric nitrogen and chlorine are fatal. Take also the case of No. 28: the amount of free ammonia is certainly high, but it is the exceptionally large proportion of nitrogen which clearly condemns the water. Whatever the reason may be, it seems evident that nitrogenous organic matter undergoes oxidation more readily in certain soils than in others, so that the proportions of ammonia and albuminoid ammonia cannot be alone taken as indicating the extent of contamination. It is within my knowledge that a reservoir which is situated in a region where the population is gradually increasing is being carefully watched (analytically), and it is the steady increase in nitrogen (N_2O_3 and N_2O_5) which is particularly noted, and which will ultimately lead to the closing of the reservoir.

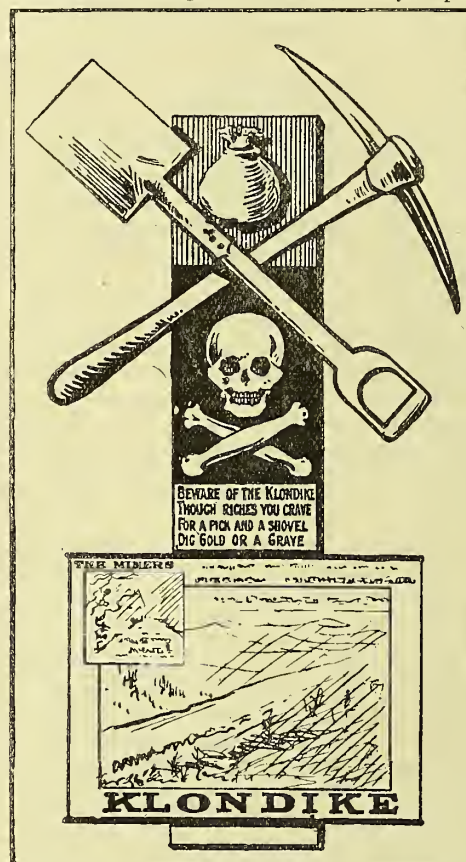
In the annexed table are given the results of thirty analyses of waters varying from "good" through "doubtful" to "bad" and "very bad," not arranged in any strict order, but sufficiently so for purposes of comparison. Nos. 1 to 17 were allowed to pass, all following them were condemned. The ammonias and nitrogen are stated in parts per million, and the chlorine and solids in grains per gallon. The "hardness," &c., were determined, but the results are not given.

	NH_3 (Saline)	NH_3 (Albuminoid)	N (N_2O_3 and N_2O_5)	Cl	Solids
1	·07	·01	—	1·0	19·6
2	·02	·05	—	1·0	18
3	·00	·02	4	1·0	15·0
4	·07	·07	—	1·8	14
5	·03	·09	—	1·1	16
6	·00	·01	—	·8	17
7	·00	·05	—	4·6	43·5
8	·01	·01	—	2·6	19·5
9	·00	·02	—	·6	29
10	·00	·04	—	6·5	50
11	·03	·10	—	1·6	10·0
12	·00	·01	4	1·2	33
13	·01	·02	2	2·1	29
14	·00	·17	—	0·7	16
15	·04	·07	7	1·8	24
16	·06	·12	3	1·2	15·5
17	·10	·02	2	·9	15
18	·17	·06	12	5·0	54·6
19	·08	1·06	—	5·3	72·5
20	·00	·06	13	5·6	40
21	·04	·05	11	5·0	54
22	·02	·06	19	3·0	38
23	·03	·05	11	2·5	26
24	·04	·71	—	1·6	n. d.
25	·09	·35	2	1·0	25·5
26	·00	·14	10	1·4	13·5
27	·04	·11	21	8·8	56
28	·16	·06	30	2·2	30
29	·72	·28	—	14·5	87
30	2·4	6·0	n. d.	12·8	147

AMALGAMATED LICENSED VICTUALLERS MINERAL-WATER AND CORDIALS MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—A petition for the compulsory winding-up of this company was presented to Mr. Justice Wright, on Thursday, but was dismissed with costs.

Advertising Ideas.

THE "frog" is still very much alive, and Mr. Garratt has some new designs for chemists' windows. Klondyke is his newest window-design. The word, he says, "possesses



infinite potentialities for advertisement." So for a short time he offers a brass-bound coloured map of the golden land with



a dozen "Frog in your Throat," or with a gross he will give the erection shown in the sketch, except the pick and shovel,

which the chemist has to procure himself. But Mr. Garratt has much other ammunition for window-displays. He now supplies his window-displays with a curtain background—a great improvement. For a centrepiece he has two moving figures, as shown in the illustration—a frog coming out of the little girl's mouth at fixed intervals in response to the little boy's scrutiny. This in the display is flanked by chariots manned and driven by frogs and drawn by harnessed flies on a large scale. The whole is framed by pyramidal sets of dummy boxes. Or he will supply sets of dummy cartons each surmounted with a gigantic frog singing and accompanying himself on a banjo. Mr. Garratt, in fact, is brimful of new ideas for crowd attractions, and the testimonials which he publishes in his latest pamphlet are convincing proof of the success of his previous designs.

Sharp Brothers (Limited) are offering a dozen boxes of Bentley's Musk Brown Windsor soap free. There is a condition, for particulars of which their advertisement should be referred to.

Five hundred free samples of Sen-Sen, the popular cachous, each one neatly attached to a card bearing the name and address of the chemist who distributes them, are offered on certain conditions which are set out in the Sen-Sen Company's advertisement this week.

Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa (Limited) wants to advertise the name of every chemist who sells that article. If grocers send their names and chemists do not, it will not be very reasonable for the latter to complain when the lists are published. See the company's advertisement.

"I do not profess to be a dealer in oils, paints, colours, &c., but in pure drugs, high-class chemicals, and photo apparatus. My policy is, never to be undersold." This is extracted from advertisement of Mr. J. H. Smith, chemist, in the *Newark Herald*.

Recognising the interest which the prospective Dover coal-mines excite in all true Kentish bosoms, Messrs. Walker & Harris, chemists, Canterbury, have lately dressed their windows with a number of photographs showing the work of mining, and they add touches of realism by displaying a pick, motty, Davy-lamp, fuse, and mining-candles, all of which have been in constant use in the Midlands. A lump of black stuff, which may or may not be Kentish coal, is also added. The association with chemistry is suggested by a number of test-glasses containing some of the chemicals abstracted from coal-tar.

Personalities.

MR. STEPHEN HARRIS, chemist, of High Street, Droitwich, has been returned second on the poll to the Corporation of Droitwich.

MR. H. KNAPMAN, of Rugby School, the eldest son of the librarian of the Pharmaceutical Society, has won a scholarship worth 80*l.* at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

MR. WALTER ASTON, pharmaceutical chemist, 21 Montague Street, Worthing, has been elected by a substantial majority to a seat on the Worthing Town Council for the Central Ward.

MR. CHARLES SHAPLEY, chemist, Torquay, has been returned unopposed to represent the Strand Ward on the Torquay Town Council, in succession to a Councillor who resigned.

THE DAVY medal of the Royal Society has this year been conferred upon Dr. John Hall Gladstone, F.R.S., whose researches on the refracting indices of substances, and on many chemical subjects fully justify this honour.

THE business of Messrs. Pettinger & Son, of Newark, where the present Lord Mayor of Manchester served his

apprenticeship, is now carried on by Mr. John H. Smith, who is well known to the trade as the maker of Flydoomo.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAM FOWLER, chemist, 125 Alexandra Road, Wimbledon, late of Bombay, asks us to make it quite clear that he has no connection with or knowledge of the man George Fowler who, as we reported last week, has been sent to gaol for fifteen months for obtaining sovereigns by false pretences from London wholesale drug-firms.

THE *Medical Press* states that the resignation by Dr. Robert Farquharson, M.P., of his fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians is an unprecedented circumstance, and gives two probable reasons for it—first, disapproval on his part of the discontinuance by the College of the subject pharmacology; and, second, his connection with Bovril. We may add a third—viz., that Dr. Farquharson is no longer in active practice.

THE Manchester Pharmaceutical Association and the chemists of the district have invited the Lord Mayor of Manchester (Mr. R. Gibson, pharmaceutical chemist) to a banquet, at which they wish to commemorate his mayoralty. The Lord Mayor has accepted the compliment, and we believe the banquet will be held in January. Mr. Harry Kemp, of Chorlton-cum-Hardy, is the Hon. Secretary of the committee.

Wills of Deceased Chemists.

The will of Mr. Stephen Willson, chemist and druggist Peterborough, who died on May 14, is proved by Mrs. Willson, the widow, Mr. J. W. Willson, M.D., the son, and Mr. H. S. Colman, the executors. The personalty amounts to 4,365*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* gross, and 4,098*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* net.

The will of Mr. John P. Bolt, chemist and druggist, retired, of Buckland, Monachorum, Devonshire, who died on June 7, is proved in London by W. R. Reed Dawe, of Hellingtown, Buckland, Monachorum; the personalty is sworn at 1,427*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*

The will of Mr. Edward Burnham, chemist and druggist, Great Grimsby, who died on June 9, is proved in London by Mrs. Burnham, the widow, and Mr. G. M. Thompson, of Keelby; the personalty is sworn at 1,865*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* gross, and 1,702*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* net.

The will of Mr. J. B. Westrup, chemist and druggist, Kensington Park Road, who died on June 14, is proved by Mr. W. R. Blair, 22 Forrest Road, Edinburgh, and Mr. J. P. Westrup, surgeon, of Walford, son of the testator, whose personalty is sworn at 1,119*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* gross, and 1,023*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* net.

The will of Mr. Thos. W. Stain, chemist and druggist, Syston, Leicestershire, who died on June 22 last, is proved by Mrs. Stain, the widow, and the Misses Frances M. a Catherine E. Stain, the daughters. The personalty is sworn at 432*l.* 2*s.*

The late Mr. Thomas Fletcher, chemist and druggist, of Smallthorne, Staffordshire, having died intestate on March 17 last year, letters of administration to his estate have been granted to Mrs. Mary Ann Maden, by whom the personalty is sworn at 441*l.* 10*s.*

The will of Mr. Richard E. Williams, chemist and druggist, 44 Brook Street, Cardiff, who died on July 22, 1897, has been proved by Mr. Charles Thomas, 44 Brook Street, the sole executor of the testator, whose personalty is sworn at 1,057*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*

The will of Mr. George B. Clarke, chemist and druggist, Woburn, Beds, who died on July 22, 1896, has been proved by Mrs. Ruth Clarke, the widow and sole executrix of the testator, whose personalty is sworn at 1,693*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* gross, and 1,467*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* net.

The will of Mr. G. A. Keyworth, Cornwallis Gardens Hastings, chemist and druggist, who died on May 27, is proved by Rev. A. E. Foster, Christ Church Vicarage, Richmond, and his wife, Mrs. Sarah Ann Hall Foster, a daughter of the testator, whose personalty is sworn at 1,717*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*

Medical Gleanings.

FOR ASTHMA

the patient should use this fuming inhalation at bed-time:—

Powdered anise-fruit	...	...	1 oz.
Powdered fennel-fruit	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Powdered sumbul-root	...	...	2 dr.
Powdered stramonium-leaves	...	...	2 dr.
Iodide of potassium	...	...	1 dr.
Powdered nitre	...	...	2 oz.

The ingredients should be perfectly dry and should be intimately mixed. A tablespoonful should be ignited and the fumes inhaled.—Dr. Murrell in *Medical Brief*.

FEHLING'S TEST (QUANTITATIVE).

MR. THOS. CARWARDINE, F.R.C.S. (Clifton, Bristol), writes to the *British Medical Journal*:—"This may be rendered much more rapid by placing the test-tube containing the suspended precipitate of red copper suboxide in a centrifugal machine. The precipitate is then thrown down at once, and the colour of the solution is obvious without delay. Costly apparatus is unnecessary; a piece of string tied to the test-tube enables it to be twirled round in the air, when the precipitate will be all found at the bottom of the tube, and the colour of the liquid can then be seen at a glance."

FORMALDEHYDE.

FROM experiments made by Graziani, it appears that the toxic properties of formaldehyde are more marked when given by the mouth than hypodermically. If diluted it has no irritant action, but in stronger doses it causes severe damage to the stomach principally and to the nervous system. It has antipyretic and antifermentative, as well as bactericidal, properties.

EXPECTORANT-PILLS.

Gum. ammoniac.	...	...	...	3iiss.
Pulv. ipecac.	...	...	...	ʒij.
Pulv. glycyrrh.	...	...	...	3iiss.
Acid. benzoic.	...	...	...	3ij.
Sapo. castil.	...	...	...	q.s.

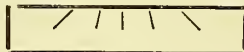
Mass and divide into 150 pills.

One to be taken, three to six times per day, for chronic pulmonary catarrh.

—*El Memorandum*.

BELLADONNA-PLASTERS.

ONE of the best remedies that we have in cases of palpitation is a belladonna-plaster. No doubt a good deal of the action of this is simply mechanical, but part of it may be due to the local effect of the belladonna upon the terminal branches of sensory nerves in the skin. In putting on such a plaster you must be careful that it is cut so that it can fit close to the heart. It is generally used in cases of women, and if put on without a cut or two in it, it will not fasten firmly over the breast, but by making a cut or two in it with a pair of scissors, thus—



you can manage to make it fit quite comfortably over the breast. In cases of lumbago a belladonna-plaster is of very great use, but you must use a very big one, as a little one is of very little use. The plaster should be about 18 inches long by about 8 inches broad, and in applying it there is a tendency for the patient to stoop down and put it on while he is in that position, but whenever he does this the belladonna-plaster becomes loose and wrinkled the moment he stands up. What he ought to do is to bend as far backwards as he can, put the plaster on, and then when he stands straight it gives him support and rucks up very little.—T. LAUDER BRUNTON, "The Action of Medicines."

RINGWORM.

DR. TOM ROBINSON, writing to the *Medical Press*, states that since January, 1895, he has in every case of ringworm,

whether of scalp, beard, or trunk, given an ointment composed of 2 gr. of mercuric chloride intimately mixed with 1 oz. of lard. This is ordered to be thoroughly rubbed into the infected area twice a day, in addition to whichunction the part is well washed once a day with common yellow soap. If the scalp is involved, the hair is cut to within $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of the scalp (cut, not shaved). If the nutrition of the patient is feeble, iron and arsenic in the form of Fowler's solution and steel wine is always prescribed. No case of scalp-ringworm or beard-ringworm has resisted the treatment for more than three months, whilst in many cases of ringworm of the trunk, four to six applications have effected a cure.

Hospital Dispensing.

"WE generally reckon to dispense about 100 prescriptions an hour per man." This was what one of four dispensers at a London hospital said to a *Globe* correspondent who had called to get some copy. "Yes, we are replenishing the stock-bottles now. For instance, that stone-jar behind you contains a mixture of gentian and soda. There are about four gallons in that jar, but, as you see, the strength marked on it is '1 in 6,' which means that I use a sixth part of the mixture and five parts of water to make a bottle of that medicine. We have as much done beforehand as we can, and in most cases the actual dispensing resolves itself into mixing so many parts from one, two, or three bottles or jars with water. The consulting-rooms are beyond the waiting-room; the patients get their prescriptions, and then come to the waiting-room to get their medicines through the dispensary-windows.

"No; we do not make many pills. They are cheaper to buy than to make. We have them in by the stone. Ointments we make, generally in hundredweight lots; but we don't require much ointment, except on 'skin days.' On skin days—that is, on days when the skin-specialists are in attendance—we have all the jars arranged behind the bench, but on ordinary days they would only be in the way. Then here we keep the blisters. Those little casks contain concentrated tonics and medicinal food—we use a great deal of them. That cupboard behind contains the dangerous poisons. It is always kept locked, except when any of them are in actual use. The rules are very strict about that kind of thing. Only one case of accidental poisoning has occurred since the opening of our hospital, and that took place under circumstances which, with the new regulations, could not recur.

"This," pointing to a dark brown, sticky-looking liquid in a large glass jar, which looked as though it was frequently in use, "is a special nerve mixture. It is prescribed for persons whose diseases exist only in their imagination. It is burnt sugar. It makes a fine high-coloured mixture, and it is really astonishing how often patients who have had it will declare that 'it has done them so much good.' There are persons who have a perfect mania for medical treatment when they can get it gratis; they come till the doctors get tired of them, and then they are generally choked off by this stuff here. It is composed of innocuous but most nauseous drugs, and seldom fails in its action."

The dispensing proper was now beginning. First came the bottles and jars from the wards, where the doctors were making their daily rounds. Twelve o'clock struck, and soon the crowd of out-patients were presenting themselves at the little windows. With marvellous rapidity the dispensers dealt with each case, and the reporter tells how they added a few sympathetic or encouraging words to cheer their clients. No expense, he says, is spared in drugs, the most costly drugs being used when necessary. He saw a poor man get a tiny box of ointment, the ingredients in which, he was told, cost half-a-crown. When patients come first they are required to provide their bottles. If they have none they are charged a penny. Sometimes the penny is waived, but it is necessary to be careful. As it is, many grumble, and occasionally one is insolent; but this does not happen often. On the whole, he came to the conclusion that the relief afforded at the hospitals is of the greatest possible value.

Trade Reports.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., November 18.

A STEADY amount of business has been transacted this week in the drug and chemical markets, and, although there have been no sensational alterations, it may generally be said that the state of trade remains very satisfactory. In fine chemicals the principal alteration is in cocaine, which has suddenly jumped up 2s. per oz. Sulphonal is steady, and tending firmer. Quinine unchanged, and rather quiet, but the fresh advance in cinchona may affect the position shortly. Cinchonidine scarce and dear. English resin of scammony has been reduced. Camphor quiet and unchanged. Podophyllin has been advanced in price. In the department of crude drugs, we have to report a considerable improvement in orris-root. Calumba is also dearer again. Ergot very firmly held. Tuesday's cinchona sales showed an advance of about 15 per cent. on the last Amsterdam auctions. Privately Huanoco and Loxa barks are dearer. Socotrine and Curaçao aloes scarce. Annatto more firmly held. Peru and Tolu balsams again dearer. Cascara sagrada slightly easier, but apparently in a sound position. Cochineal and Guinea grains remain dear. For gum euphorbium better prices are asked. Ipecacuanha has advanced, both for Rio and Carthagena. Menthol steady. Cod-liver oil quiet, with a firm undertone. Opium continues very firm, especially for fine Persian, which is again dearer. There has been an arrival of sarsaparilla. Dutch rose-leaves are somewhat easier. Soy firmly held. Tonca - beans steady. Vanilla declined from 2s. to 3s. per lb. at the last auctions. Castor oil remains firm. There is slightly more demand for coca-leaves. Cubebs quiet, but reported "cornered" in Singapore. Olive oil still tending upwards. Myrrh, kola, and jalap steady. Saffron is again lower. In essential oils there has been a fresh advance in oils of lemongrass and cajuput. Italian essences quiet. Citronella easier, especially for arrival. Japanese and American oils of peppermint a trifle firmer. Star-anise oil is also reported a little dearer. Cassia unchanged. In spices, drysalteries, and heavy chemicals the principal alterations are as follows:—Sulphate of ammonia is dearer, and sal ammoniac has been advanced 2s. German potato-spirit is now cheap. Glycerine shows no alteration. Bleaching-powder easier, and recovered sulphur very firm. Benzols and sulphate of copper tending downwards. Caustic soda ammonia alkali, and soda crystals extremely firm. Arsenic slightly easier. Carbolic acid steady. Borax and crude camphor unchanged. Cream of tartar rather easier. Prussiate of potash dearer. Quicksilver shows no change. Japan wax is quiet. Turmeric in demand at very full rates. Shellac slightly dearer at auction but otherwise quiet. Cochin and Jamaica gingers are lower. Cloves have fluctuated and close firmer. Pimento firmer. Chillies and black and white pepper easier. Nutmegs and mace dull of sale. Linseed oil flat and easier for distant delivery. Rape oil steady, both for crude and refined. Cotton-seed oil $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ easier for crude, and steady for refined. Ceylon and Cochin coconut oils are a turn firmer. Opium and olive oils unchanged. Turpentine dearer at 23s. 6d. for American on the spot. Petroleum flat and unchanged.

During the first half of the present financial year—from April 1 to September 30 last—exporters of tinctures, medicinal spirits, &c., have had repaid to them the duty and allowances on 31,994 proof gallons of spirits exported in these articles, as against 25,619 proof gallons during the same period of 1896. This very substantial increase of 6,375 proof gallons would seem to indicate considerable activity in this section of the export drug-trade during the six months in question.

Circulars dated "London, October 20," and issued by the British principals of a New York firm of import merchants, have been sent round to the wholesale drug-trade of New York. The circulars offer to supply the addressees with "saccharin de Fahlberg" 1:300 or 1:500 at the following prices:—1 lb. tins 1:300 29s. per lb., bulk 1-cwt. packages 1:300 151 $\frac{1}{2}$ per package (*sic*!), 1 lb. tins 1:500, 41s. per lb., ditto in 1-cwt. packages, 202 $\frac{1}{2}$ per package, net cash, delivered in London. In Germany the Reichsgericht, which is the highest Court of the Empire, has confirmed the judgment of the "Oberlandesgericht" at Dresden in the patent-infringement case of Fahlberg, List & Co. v. Von Heyden & Co. to the effect that Von Heyden's process of manufacturing saccharin is not an infringement of Fahlberg's patents.

Further consignments of adulterated star-anise oil have been received in London. One of these was the subject of an arbitration in Mincing Lane this week. It consisted of 10 cases, and analysis showed one of these to be pure and 9 to be adulterated with kerosene to the extent of between 30 and 40 per cent. The parcel has been invoiced back to the seller in the same way as that recently referred to. It may be mentioned that attention was first called to the adulteration by a German firm, by whom the oil had been rejected.

Hitherto all the export-trade in Japanese peppermint oil and menthol has been transacted through European firms in Japan, who have bought from native distillers. Several native brands have long been known on the British market, but they have never been purchased direct. An attempt is now being made, however, by certain Japanese capitalists to get rid of the European middlemen in their country, and to this end a company with a capital of 150,000 yen has been incorporated in Japan under the name of the Japan Menthol Company. It is claimed that the company will be able to undersell all other firms interested in the article.

The richest deposits of quicksilver known in the world are in the Province of Kwei-Chow, in South-western China. Until now this province has been closed to foreign trade, but, by a treaty between Great Britain and China, which took effect on June 4 last, the West River, which taps this region, was thrown open to commerce for all nations, and on the evening of the same day the steamer *Wing Tong*, of the China Navigation Company, left Hong Kong for a trading journey up the West River. The same river also gives access to every part of the Province of Kwang-si, which is the principal star-anise growing district of China. The trade in star-anise oil in the province is said to be steadily growing, and to "promise to attain very large proportions." The last contingency must of course depend upon the possibility of finding an outlet for the product. It may be easy to increase the production of the oil, but we doubt whether the consumption could be much advanced, unless a new use were found for the article.

The price of St. Vincent arrowroot has declined enormously during the past few years, which is a very serious thing for the island, because, next to sugar, arrowroot is its most important product. Many other tropical products could be grown, and, presumably, profitably so, in St. Vincent, but of the 44,000 acres of cultivable land in the island 30,000 belong to ten people and the agricultural conditions of the colony is therefore.

London Twelve cinchona auctions will be held in Cinchona- London during 1898. The following dates have Sales. been fixed for them:—January 25, February 15, March 15, April 26, May 24, June 21, July 19, August 16, September 13, October 11, November 8, and December 13.

pretty much what these ten people, who do not seem to be very accessible to new ideas, make it. The following are the official arrowroot export statistics for the past five years:—

	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896
Barrels	23,433	22,310	29,119	26,695	20,122
Value	£61,313	50,807	38,278	26,960	22,007

The application of the name "jaborandi" to so many different plants of South American origin has been noted by writers on medicinal plants as causing much confusion as to their proper identification. Thus Bentley and Trimen in their "Medicinal Plants," published seventeen years ago, pointed out that the name, spelt either "jaborandi" or "jamborandi," was applied to "a number of drugs of vegetable origin employed in Brazil for their sialogogue and diaphoretic properties," and they further drew attention to the fact that the following plants had been so enumerated by Dr. Perkolt, of Rio Janeiro, namely:—*Serronia Jaborandi*, Guill.; *Piper Jaborandi*, Vell.; *Piper nodulosum*, Link; *Piper reticulatum*, L.; *Artanthe mollicoma*, Miq.; *Aubletia bifolia*, Rich.; and *Xanthoxylum elegans*, Engl.

The question of the identification of jaborandi-yielding plants has been well and carefully attended to by Mr. E. M. Holmes, who has at different times shown that the leaves of other plants besides those of species of *Pilocarpus* enter the English market as jaborandi. So long ago, indeed, as 1875, only a year after the introduction of the Pernambuco sort, a new kind appeared, which proved to be a species of *Piper*, and was further identified as *P. Jaborandi*, Vell.; and so recently as July, 1896, Mr. Holmes drew attention to another new kind, under the name of a spurious Maranham Jaborandi, the leaves of which he identified as a species of *Swartzia*, a genus of *Leguminosæ*, belonging to the sub-order *Papilionaceæ*, so that from the wide range in the botanical affinities of the plants that have already been introduced as jaborandi there is no telling what may yet appear under this accommodating name. These remarks are inspired from the fact that at the drug-sales on October 14 a sample of the drug, very dark, stalky, and mixed was shown, which upon closer examination proved to be the leaves and stalks of *Piper Jaborandi*.

Our New York correspondent telegraphs on Thursday evening that *Cocaine* has advanced 25c. per lb. *Balsam of New York* *tolu* is obtainable at 42½c. per lb. *Oil of Worm-Cablegram*. *seed* may be had at \$2 per lb. *Sassafras* of thin fragrant quality offers at 8c. per lb., while there are increased offerings of *Golden-seal* root (*Hydrastis canadensis*) at 46c. per lb. The stocks of *Honduras sarsaparilla* are in small compass at primary sources. The current price to-day is from 31c. to 35c. per lb.

ACID (CARBOLIC) remains quite firm at last week's quotations. *Crystals*, 39° to 40° C., 7½d. to 7¾d. per lb.; 34° to 35° C., 7d. per lb. *Crude*, 60-per-cent., 2s.; 75-per-cent., 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8d. per gallon; and *Cresylic*, 95-per-cent., 1s. to 1s. 1d. per gallon.

ACIDS (VARIOUS).—*Tartaric* very quiet. *English*, B.P., on the spot, at 1s. 1½d.; foreign, 12½d. per lb. *Citric* slow of sale, and rather easier; there are sellers at 1s. 1d. per lb., but no business to speak of is doing. *Concentrated juice* has sold at 11l. 2s. 6d. per pipe c.f. *Acid oxalic* quiet at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb.

ALCOHOL.—New *German* potato-spirit is now on the market. Prices are very moderate with a quiet tone; ordinary qualities offering at 6¾d. per gallon, proof, in bond, c.i.f. terms, packing not included: fine perfumers' qualities at from 7¼d. to 7½d. per gallon ditto.

ALOES.—Small sales of good bright *Socotrine* aloes are reported privately, at 80s. per cwt., which is a steady price. The available stock is getting rather small. Good *Curaçao* aloes in gourds is also scarce.

ALUM unaltered and low in price at 4l. 17s. 6d. per ton for loose lump, 5l. 2s. 6d. for ditto in tierces, and 5l. 12s. 6d. for ground alum in bags.

AMMONIA.—The price of *Sal ammoniac* has been advanced by 2s., best quality crystals being now quoted at 35s., second quality at 33s. per cwt.

ANNATTO SEED.—It is said that the market has been cleared of all parcels offering, and that 17s. per cwt. is now asked for good bright seed in second hand. Good paste, 2s. 6d. per lb.

ARSENIC.—Tending easier; 22l. 10s. would now be accepted for best white powder.

BALSAMS (MEDICINAL).—*Canada* balsam is firm at 11d. per lb., c.i.f. terms, with a slightly firmer tendency. *Oregon balsam* (of fir) is steady at 6d. to 7d. per lb. c.i.f. *Balsam Peru* dearer and very scarce: 8s. 6d. per lb. is asked, and there is very little offering. *Cypaibas* very firm. *Tolu* firm at 2s. 10d. to 3s. per lb. for genuine hard.

BORAX.—Within the last few days the heaviest arrivals of *Chilian* borate of lime ever known in this country have taken place. They consist of two consignments, one of 8,000 and another one of 7,000 sacks. The market for refined borax remains very dull at 14s. to 14s. 6d. for crystals, and 15s. per cwt. for powder. *Boracic acid* quiet at 24s. per cwt. for crystals, and 26s. per cwt. for powder.

CALUMBA.—Again about 5s. dearer since the last auctions. Fine yellow washed and picked, which sold at 60s. at the last auction, is now held for 65s. per cwt., and for bright yellow washed, which realised 40s. per cwt. last Thursday, 45s. has since been paid.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—*Japanese* camphor is quoted at 97s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms, on the spot, which shows no change, but for *Formosa* the quotations from China are higher at 89s., c.i.f., for December-January.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Quiet. The recent advance is barely maintained, and 17s. per cwt. would buy good quality on the spot. The *Duchalburn*, from Portland, has brought 419 sacks to Liverpool.

CINCHONA.—The monthly cinchona-bark auctions, held in London on Tuesday, were the heaviest that have been held for many years, the total quantity of bark catalogued by the twelve brokers who offered being 3,922 packages. These were divided as follows:—East Indian bark, 922 packages; Ceylon, 799; W. African, 477; Javan, 496; S. American *Calisaya* quill, 717; Cuprea, 495; soft Colombian, 17; and Carthagena, 29 packages. The supply included a good many parcels of old import, independent of the Cuprea, which has been lying here for fourteen or fifteen years. The competition was very animated throughout the sales, and the bulk—viz., 2,640 packages—of the supply offered sold at an advance of from 10 to 15 per cent. on last week's Amsterdam auctions, the unit averaging from 1¾d. to 1¾d. per lb., although in several instances 2d. per lb. or more was obtained. The bulk of the Bolivian *Calisaya* quill, which was bought in at auction, has since been sold at a unit of fully 2d. per lb. The following prices were obtained:—

CEYLON AND E.I. BARK.—Original *Succirubra*, ordinary to good bright shavings and stem chips, 2¾d. to 5¾d.; split to good bright *Druggists'* quill, 2¾d. to 5¾d.; ordinary to good root, 2¾d. to 4¾d. per lb. *Officinalis*, ordinary to good stem and branch chips and shavings, 2d. to 6d.; broken to good bright mossy quill, 5¾d. to 8½d. *Ledgeriana*, ordinary to good stem chips, 3½d. to 5½d. *Original* and *Renewed succirubra*, fair to good chips and shavings, 4d. to 7½d. *Officinalis*, ordinary to fine chips and shavings, 3¾d. to 8½d.; partly broken quill, 9d. *Hybrid*, stem and branch chips, 6d. *Ledgeriana*, ditto, 5¾d. to 5¼d. per lb.

JAVA CINCHONA.—*Ledgeriana*, broken to good bright whole quill, 3½d. to 7¼d.; branch and stem chips, natural, 6¾d. to 10½d.

WEST AFRICAN *Succirubra*, fair to good whole quill, 5d. to 8½d.; broken ditto, 4¾d. per lb.

SOUTH AMERICAN BARK.—*Bolivian* cultivated *Calisaya* quill, fair to good bright 5d. to 9½d. per lb., broken 4½d. to 6¾d., twigs 2¾d. to 3¼d. *Cuprea* from 1½d. to 2¼d., flat *Carthagena* 6d. per lb. All the soft *Columbian* bark was bought in at 5½d. per lb. The stock of cinchona bark in London on November 1 was as follows:—Eastern cinchonas, 5,573 bales; S. American *Calisaya*, 3,689 bales; Cupreas, soft Colombian, Pitayo, &c., 8,590 bales; Carthagena, 673 bales; South

American "crown" and "grey" barks, 371 bales; ditto red barks, 23 packages; total, 18,919 packages. Since the Amsterdam bark auctions of November 4, 231 bales of Java bark bought in on that occasion, and representing about 1,303 kilos. of sulphate of quinine, have been sold privately at full prices.

There has been a new arrival of 20 serons *Huanoco* and *Loxa* bark, which will be offered at the next drug-auctions. Although these varieties have lately realised higher prices, especially *Huanoco*, which has been sold privately at as high a figure as 1s. 4d. per lb. for good quality. *Loxa* is also scarce, 1s. 2d. per lb. having been paid for it. There has also been an arrival of 45 bales fine flat Bolivian-Calisan, which will likewise be offered next week.

CINCHONIDINE.—Firmly held at 8½d. per oz.

COCA LEAVES.—There has been a little better demand for this article lately, but prices still remain low. Good *Truxillo* leaves can be had at 6d. to 7d., *Huanoco* at about 9d. per lb.

COCAINE.—The convention came to an end on Wednesday, but contrary to the usual experiences in such cases—viz., a general breakdown in prices—there has been a substantial advance, amounting to no less than 2s. per oz. on *Hydrochlorate*. Most of the German brands are now held for 10s., but for *Zimmer's* in 100-oz. lots 10s. 6d. per oz. is required. It is said that the demand for crude cocaine still continues extremely active. The advance on this article since the beginning has been fully 40 per cent. The Hamburg price is reported to be 280m. per kilo.

COCHINEAL.—Quiet at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. for good silver *Teneriffe*, and 12½d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. for black ditto.

CREAM OF TARTAR is still tending downwards, prices being about 1s. below those of last week, best white *French* crystals offering at 73s. 6d. to 74s.; powder at 76s. to 78s. per cwt. The quotation for crystals is from 70s. 6d. to 71s. f.o.b. Bordeaux.

CUBEBS.—There is a rumour to the effect that the entire supply in Singapore has been bought up by speculators. The London market shows no improvement whatever, although it is doubtful whether anything more can be had at the extremely low prices accepted at the last sales. Good quality, free from stalk, is generally held at from 26s. to 23s. per cwt. nominally.

EUQUININE.—The quotation for this new preparation runs from 4s. 3d. per oz. for 200-oz. lots in paper parcels, up to 5s. 6d. per oz. for 1-oz. parcels.

FRENCH CHALK in *slices* offers at 35s. per cwt., *powder* at 5s. 6d. per cwt.

GALLS.—*Chinese* galls are quieter; quotations from China run from 56s. to 53s. 9d. per cwt. c.i.f. November-January shipment, according to holder. *Persian* galls keep firm; up to 57s. per cwt. has been paid for good blue, but the demand has slackened somewhat since then.

GLYCERIN.—Double-distilled, s.g. 1.260, is unaltered, at 49s. to 50s. per cwt. Crude glycerine, however, is dearer, most of the manufacturers refusing to sell for next year's delivery at the current rates. Dynamite glycerine a shade easier.

GUINEA GRAINS.—Firmly held. The parcel offered at last week's drug-sales has been sold at 33s. per cwt.

GUM ACACIA.—*East Indian* gums are generally quiet. Good pale *Ghatti* sells in a small way at 35s. to 40s., ordinary dark brown at 20s. to 21s. per cwt. Fair *Aden* sorts have been sold at 45s. 6d. per cwt., and for fair glassy red *Australian* 28s. per cwt. has been paid.

GUM EUPHORBUM.—The nine serons dark mixed *Mogadore* which were sold "subject to approval" at 9s. per cwt. at the last auctions are still on the market. The owner has refused to confirm the sale, and asks 11s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—*Brazilian* root is firmer. Several parcels have changed hands since the auctions on the basis of 6s. 6d. per lb. for good partly thin mixed root, and to-day a sale is reported at 6s. 9d. per lb. for the same quality. *Carthagena* root still remains very scarce, although a small lot is known to be on the way. This, however, is held for 6s. per lb., and

at the same price a small business has been done on the spot showing a decided advance. London picked *Rio* root is reported to have been sold at 7s. 9d. per lb.

JALAP.—There has been several inquiries in the market, but up to the present no business has resulted; 6½d. per lb. is the price for fair *Vera Cruz*, but holders would not sell much at that figure.

KOLA.—Fairly steady. Bold washed has been sold privately at 6d.; chips at 4d. per lb.

MANDRAKE-ROOT.—May be had at 3½d. per lb., c.i.f. terms.

MENTHOL.—Quiet and unchanged on the spot at 7s. 3d. per lb. Very firm prices are quoted for arrival, however, 8s. per lb., c.i.f. terms, being the general first-hand quotations, while second-hand offers at 7s. 9d. per lb. c.i.f.

MYRRH.—For good siftings 40s. per cwt. is asked, showing a firm market.

OIL (CASTOR).—*Italian* is firm on the spot, prices ruling from 4½d. to 5d. per lb.

OIL (COD-LIVER).—The London market remains very quiet, quotations being from 65s. to 72s. per barrel for good non-congealing *Norwegian*, spot terms. It is reported, however, that other markets are much more active than ours, and one of the Norwegian agents tells us that he has received orders this week to ship 100 barrels to Hamburg, where there is said to be a ready sale for the oil. *Newfoundland* oil 2s. 6d. per gallon.

OIL (OLIVE).—The crop in *Tuscany* is reported to be below the average in yield, but the quality is satisfactory. The prices for finest *Lucca* oils range from 45l. to 65l. per ton, according to quality.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—*Sicilian* essential oils quiet and unchanged. *Lemongrass* oil is much dearer. On the spot 4½d. per oz. has been paid, and 5d. is required. For arrival there are no offers. It is said that this oil is now used in the manufacture of the basis of a "new violet-scent." *Citronella* easier; 1s. 4d. per lb. for drums on the spot; to arrive 1s. 1½d. per lb., c.i.f., might be accepted. *Star-anise* oil 7s. per lb., c.i.f., December-January, but 20 cases are said to have been sold at 6s. 10d. per lb., c.i.f.; on the spot 7s. 9d. per lb. is asked. *Cassia* oil, 85 per cent., 6s. spot; 80-85 per cent. 5s. 9d. spot, 5s. 3d. c.i.f.; 70-75 per cent., 5s. 6d. spot, 5s. c.i.f. *American oil of peppermint* is rather firmer, at 6s. per lb. for H.G.H. on the spot, bottom price. *Todd's* crystal white, 5s. per lb., spot. *Japanese peppermint* oil has sold at 3s. 3d. per lb. spot for dementholised, and 5s. per lb. spot for 40 per cent. *American Cedarwood* oil offers at 1s. 1d., and *Sassafras* at 1s. 10d., per lb. The latter is tending upward. *Wintergreen* oil is also a little firmer, at 5s. 6d. per lb. spot in cases of six 10-lb. tins.

OPIMUM.—*Persian* remains extremely firm with further sales of fine quality at 10s. per lb.; but the bulk of the supply is now held for advanced prices—up to 10s. 6d. per lb. for the best. Ordinary to common grades offer at 9s. 3d. to 9s. 9d. per lb. *Turkish* opium firm, and reported dearer from the East.

ORRIS-ROOT.—There has been quite a turn in the position of this article during the last few days. A very considerable business has been transacted, both in London and in Italy, and prices are from 4s. to 5s. per cwt. dearer for *Florentine*. Fine picked is now quoted, according to holder, at from 38s. to 40s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms; while on the spot as much as 43s. to 45s. is asked for this variety. Sorts, 32s. to 36s., c.i.f.; small white, 31s. to 32s., c.i.f. *Verona* root is also dearer, fine quality at 25s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f., although there are still sellers on the spot at 24s. to 25s.; seconds, 20s. to 21s. per cwt. on the spot. It seems evident that there is an organised speculative movement in progress in the article, in which large operations are taking place, and considerably higher rates are confidently predicted in the near future.

PODOPHYLLIN has been advanced about 2s. by most of the manufacturers. Good *English* resin, which was offering at 8s. 6d. per lb., is now held nominally at 10s. 6d., but there are not even sellers at that figure. The supply is said to be very small, fine soluble podophyllin of German manufacture,

which has hitherto been held much above the general market-price, is now reported to be selling in small quantities at 12s. 6d. per lb.

POTASH SALTS.—*Yellow prussiate* is extremely firm. The Beckton works are not quoting for the present, and other makers require from 6d. to 6½d. per lb. usual terms. *Cyanide* still advancing: 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb. is quoted on the spot for 98 to 99 per cent., but for delivery next year 11d. would still be accepted. *Chlorate of potash* quiet at 3¼d. per lb. in London, and 3½d. per lb. f.o.b. Liverpool for immediate delivery. *Pernanganate* quiet with a downward tendency; 65s. to 67s. per cwt. would buy. *Montreal potashes* nominally 20s. *Pearlshashes*, 31s. per cwt. *British refined saltpetre* offers at 19s. 6d. to 20s. 6d.; *German* at 18s. 9d. to 19s. 6d. per cwt., according to packing.

QUICKSILVER.—Quietly steady, at 7l. per bottle from the importers, and 6l. 18s. 6d. to 6l. 19s. per bottle in second hands.

QUININE.—*Howards'* quotation for vials is rather higher this week, 1s. 6d. being now asked for 1,000-oz. lots. No official intimation to this effect has been given, however, and the manufacturers say that they are by no means anxious to sell. *Zimmer's* brand is quoted nominally at 1s. 3½d. per oz. Other German brands nominally 1s. 3d. per oz. A few days ago secondhand German sold at 1s. 2¼d. per oz., and at that price some could probably still be had to-day.

ROSE-LEAVES.—Fair *Dutch* leaves have fallen in price, and may now be had at 1s. 2d. per lb.

SAFFRON is still declining in price, and orders are continually being placed at fully lower rates. Fine *Valencia* is quoted according to holder at from 36s. to 38s. 6d. per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Fifty-three bales have arrived per *Orinoco* from Colon. This arrival consists of *Lima-Jamaica* and genuine grey *Jamaica* root.

SCAMMONY.—*English* resin has been reduced in price, 6s. 6d. per lb. being now the quotation.

SHELLAC.—The excitement reported by cable from Calcutta, where native buyers are said to be paying prices much above the London-market rates, has not been echoed here. In fact the speculative market remains extremely dull. At auction on Tuesday 1,137 cases were offered, of which 635 sold, with fair competition, at an advance of about 1s. for blocky and ordinary second *Orange*, while, on the other hand, good qualities were rather easier. Of *Garnet* and *Button* lac little was sold, and there is no change in price in these varieties. The following prices were paid:—Weak, pale to good bright second *Orange*, 70s. to 78s.; fair flat, red to good bright TN *Orange*, 61s. to 63s.; ordinary red livery TN, 59s. to 60s.; good bright to cakey, 61s. to 62s.; ordinary dark to fair red, 58s. to 61s.; blocky, 56s. to 59s. per cwt. After the auctions about 200 cases, which had been bought in, sold at steady prices; otherwise there has been comparatively little demand. For arrival TN quotations are nominal, but 200 cases fine *Orange* AA have been sold at 72s. per cwt, c.i.f. terms. Quotations from Calcutta remain extremely firm. The London speculative market is quiet and easier, with sales of 100 cases TN March delivery at 66s. per cwt. The nominal spot quotation for AC *Garnet* is 74s. per cwt.

SPICES.—*Jamaica Ginger* has been dull of sale and tending easier for some time. At auction 58 barrels low to medium were bought in at 70s. to 82s. per cwt. *Cochin* ginger is flat, and again lower for rough kinds. At auction 240 bags sold, at from 18s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. for medium to fair, partly lean and wormy washed rough, and at 17s. to 17s. 6d. for wormy ends. Fine bold cut was bought in at 110s. per cwt. *Chillies* dull of sale and easier; fair red Zanzibar realised 35s. at auction. *Capsicums* quiet. Small sea-damaged East Indian sold at 20s. per cwt. *Cassia lignea*: Quiet. Whole was bought in at 42s. 6d.; common broken sold at 25s. per cwt. *Mace* and *Nutmegs* extremely dull. Fair West Indian mace sold at 1s. 5d. per lb. at auction. Of *Curaway-seed*, a parcel of 95 bags from Hamburg sold very cheaply without reserve, at from 18s. 6d. to 19s. per cwt. *Pimento* is higher, although at auction there was little demand. Since the auctions, ordinary to fair has sold at 3¼d. to 3½d. per lb. *Black pepper* quiet

and without business of importance. At auction 34 bags fair Singapore sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. *White pepper* is dull of sale. Fair to good bold Singapore realised 6¾d. to 7¼d. per lb. at auction. Privately, *Penang*, January-March steamer, has been sold at 6d. per lb. Zanzibar *Cloves* have fluctuated a great deal. The London speculative market, after having been easier for some time, closes firmer with sales for January-March delivery, up to 2¾d. per lb. At auction, Zanzibar cloves were not offered, but 34 cases fair picked Penang sold without reserve at lower rates—viz., at 6½d. per lb.

SOX.—*Chinese* firmly held, at 11½d. to 1s. per gallon for fair quality.

SULPHONAL.—Is reported to be firmer, and likely to advance. 7s. 6d. per lb. is the current quotation on the spot, but we believe there are still sellers at 7s. 3d. per lb.

TONCA BEANS.—Good frosted Pará beans are selling slowly at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. per lb.; fair bold black may be had at 1s. 1d., and ordinary black at 10d. to 1s. per lb.

TURMERIC.—Still advancing in the absence of arrivals. A few hundred bags of *Bengal* root were sold a few days ago at 12s. 6d. per cwt. *Madras* root is quiet at 18s. 6d. per cwt. for fair and 19s. 6d. per cwt. for good bright.

VANILLA.—At auction on Friday last the large quantity of 362 tins of *Seychelles* vanilla, generally of very good quality so far as aroma and colour are concerned, but partly too fresh to keep long, were offered. The demand was good, and as holders were evidently prepared to sell, nearly everything found buyers at irregular prices, averaging 2s. to 3s. per lb. decline. The following were the quotations:—Good fresh 8 inches to 9 inches, 24s. 6d. to 29s.; 7 inches to 8 inches, 20s. to 26s.; 6 inches to 7 inches, 18s. 6d. to 23s. 6d.; 5 inches to 6 inches, 17s. 6d. to 21s. 6d.; 3 inches to 5 inches, 17s. 6d. to 21s. Good to ordinary dull split beans from 7s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.; very low pickings, 1s. 9d. per lb. A few tins of *Bourbon* and *Tahiti* vanilla were bought in.

WAX (JAPAN) quiet. Good pale *Japanese* squares are quoted at 39s. to 40s. per cwt. on the spot, with a small hand-to-mouth business. For arrival there are sellers at reduced rates—viz., 36s. per cwt. "c.i.f." terms for November-December steamer.

The Java Quinine-works.

THE Java quinine-factory at Bandong has now been a work for several months, but, like most new undertakings, it has had a good many difficulties to overcome. The first of these was that extensive repairs were found to be required in the machinery (which had been purchased in Germany) almost as soon as it was put up. When that was done it was found that the producing-capacity of the works was inadequate to the probable demand upon the plant, and the factory had to be extended. The Dutch-Indian Government, in order to encourage the Java works, ordered 500 kilos. sulphate of quinine, to be delivered on July 1, but this order could not be executed in time, and had to be transmitted to Europe by the authorities—a fact which did not increase the prestige of the works. Now, however, the factory appears to have passed through its teething-period, and is already trying to extend its operations beyond the Dutch East Indies. Thirty kilos. of the Bandong quinine have been sent for sale to Singapore, where it was said (on whose authority we do not know) to be "better than Howards'." Messrs. McNeill & Co., of Samarang, Java, one of the firms who act as selling-agents for the Bandong works, report that the samples of the quinine which they have sent to their clients have everywhere given great satisfaction, and Messrs. MacLaine, Watson & Co., the selling-agents at Batavia, say that in the first week of October they received the following cablegram from London:—"Ship any quantity you can; we can sell large quantities up to 1s. per oz." (At that time the London quotation of second-hand German quinine was 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per oz.)

But the Java quinine-works anticipate violent opposition from the European makers. They say that Herr Buchler, the director of the Brunswick factory, who visited Bandong

just before the establishment of the works, publicly declared that if the factory were really started the European manufacturers would kill it, even if they had to reduce the price of quinine to 6*d.* And it is held in many quarters in Java that the great advance in cinchona-bark which we are now witnessing is not due to the reduction of the bark-output, but to the deliberate policy of the great European manufacturers, who want to make the prices for cinchona-bark in Europe so remunerative that the Java planters will have no inducement to send their bark to the Bandong factory to be converted into quinine. It is pointed out that two days before the Amsterdam sale of September 30, at which the unit advanced to 6.27*c.*, a cablegram had been sent to Holland announcing that the enlargement of the Bandong factory had been completed, and that the works were now able to turn out 100 kilos. of sulphate of quinine a day.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is no improvement to note in the condition of the heavy-chemical market. Export demand, although moderately active, continues to decrease, whilst home demand is only very quiet. Prices on the whole are steady and fairly well maintained. The main feature of interest is in the position of *Bleaching-powder*, owing to the competition caused by the electrolytic product being placed on the market in increased quantities; 5*l.* 5*s.* free on rails is the nominal figure for next year's deliveries. For prompt there is a fairly good demand, and prices stand: Liverpool, softwood, on rails, 6*l.* 5*s.*; Liverpool, f.o.b., 6*l.* 5*s.*, with usual extra for hardwood casks. Another alteration is also to be noted in the position of *Sulphate of ammonia*, it having improved considerably since the date of last writing, prices being about 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton higher. Quotations are: Beckton terms, prompt, 8*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; Beckton, 8*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; next year's delivery, 9*l.*; Hull, London, and Leith, 8*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*. Exports from Leith last week amounted to 515 tons. *Bichromates of potash and soda* has been reduced by $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per lb., and now stand 4*d.* per lb. for English and Scotch deliveries, and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per lb. respectively. *Caustic soda* very firm and unchanged, 60 per cent., 6*l.* 10*s.*; 70 per cent., 7*l.* 10*s.*; 74 per cent., 8*l.* 10*s.*, all f.o.b. Liverpool; 76-77 per cent., 8*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* f.o.b. Tyne or Liverpool. *Soda crystals* steady, 57*s.* 6*d.* f.o.b. Tyne or Liverpool. *Ammonia alkali* also maintains a very strong position, present figures are 3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* in bags on rails, and 4*l.* f.o.b. Liverpool. *Soda ash*, carbonated, 48 per cent., 4*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton on rails. *Caustic*, 5*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*. *Saltcake* meets with a better demand and is a shade dearer, standing now at 19*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.* free on rails. *Benzols* are easier. *Brown acetate of lime* firmly maintains its position. *Recovered sulphur* scarce and higher at 5*l.*

The Hamburg Drug-market.

Our Hamburg correspondent writes on November 16 that business in general has been quiet during the week. *Antimony* is slightly firmer, and is quoted 40 m. per 100 kilos. *Agar-agar* is quiet, being obtainable at 270 m. on the spot; while forward delivery offers at 258 m. per 100 kilos. *Cape aloes* is unchanged at 48 m. per 100 kilos. *Balsam Peru* firmer, 18 m. per kilo. asked. *Balsam tolu* quiet, at 4 m. to 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. per kilo. *Borax* also quiet at 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. per 100 kilos. *Maltese eumin-seed* is unchanged at 38 m. to 40 m. per 100 kilos. *Refined camphor* is quiet, and shows little business at 260 m. per 100 kilos. *Cassia lignea* unchanged, at 76 m. to 78 m. per 100 kilos. for new crop. *Cinnamon* quiet, with lower offers for shipment. *Cocaine* shows a strong market, with an upward tendency. Frankfurt works ask 350 m. per kilo, while prices of other brands vary from 300 m. to 340 m. per kilo. Holders are not anxious to sell, and expect a further advance.

The Amsterdam Cinchona-auctions.

The cinchona-auctions to be held at Amsterdam on December 9 will consist of 8,216 bales and 626 cases Java bark. The stock in first hand, including the above quantity now consists of 1,715 packages Government and 8,022 private bark. These auctions will be the largest ever held anywhere, and it will be interesting to see if the market can stand this severe test of its strength.

The Bergen Cod-liver Oil Market.

Our Bergen correspondent, writing on November 13, reports that the cod-liver oil market is quiet, but firm. The quotation is unchanged at 67*s.* per barrel, f.o.b. terms, for best *Lofoten* non-congealing oil. The exports from Bergen up to date are 9,299 barrels, against 5,185 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

The New York Drug-market.

Our New York correspondent, writing on November 9, reports: "The market is strong generally. With few exceptions indigenous roots and barks are advancing, owing to scarcity, while increased cost of transportation from interior points still further to stiffened prices. *Black haw* bark of root is firm at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ *c.* *Cascara sagrada* is quotably firm at 4 to 5*c.* *Sassafras bark* has again been marked up, the quotation being 7*c.* *Golden-seal root* is still strong at 50*c.*, a further upward movement in price being expected, for the reason that many of the gatherers and commission-men in the interior are holding stocks at prices ranging from 50 to 75*c.* *Mandrake-root* is firm at 6*c.* *Honduras sarsaparilla*, Crown M.C., is in a strong position at 35*c.*; the scarcity of the article would indicate a further advance in the near future. *Serpentaria* is steady at 23*c.*, and *Senega* at 30*c.*, an advance being expected in both articles. *Vanilla* is very high. Mexican growers, aware of the short crop, held the article at high prices, with the result that no purchases were made excepting where urgent needs demanded them. The price to-day is double that of a year ago. For best quality \$15 is charged, and \$10 to \$13 for ordinary. *Bourbon*, for which there was no demand heretofore, is selling at \$9 now, as compared with \$2 $\frac{1}{2}$ last year. *Tahiti* brings good prices now, although but a short time ago it was considered worthless. The prices range from \$3.25 to \$4. *Curaçao aloes* is higher and firm, at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ *c.* The market at the primary source is decidedly strong, 10*c.* being quoted, which is 4*c.* higher than the quotation of a year ago. *Grindelia robusta* is strong and advancing, 8*c.* being quoted. *Jaborandi-leaves* are weak, no prime being available; dark brown leaves, lacking strength, are the only quality offered, the quotation being 14*c.*

Wine Statistics.

The Customs Department announce that after January 1 next the classification of wines as "Red" or "White" is to be abolished, except with regard to Spanish wine. In future all wines are to be described in the Customs accounts, and in the Official Trade Statistics, by their ordinary commercial names, and in addition wines imported in bottle will be divided into "Still" and "Sparkling" classes. Next year, therefore, we shall be able to obtain official statistics of the importations of each description of wine, and particulars of the countries from which it is imported. The importations from the colonies are apparently still to be included among the miscellaneous "other countries," however, which is a pity.

HOMOCEA SHARES.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Thursday, before Mr. Justice Bigham, the Homoea Company (Limited) sought to recover from Mr. John A. Rawlings, Bond Court House, Walbrook, 360*l.*, due as calls on 720 shares in the company. Defendant denied liability, because if an application for the shares was made by him his liability was contingent upon payment of a certain amount accompanying the application form on April 6, 1897. His Lordship, however, gave judgment for the amount claimed.

We mentioned recently that Mr. Ernest Hart was to edit a series of volumes entitled "Masters of Medicine." Messrs. J. & A. Churchill and Mr. Fisher Unwin will publish this series jointly. The volumes will be sold at 3*s.* 6*d.* each, and two have already appeared—namely, "John Hunter," by Stephen Paget, and "William Harvey," by D'Arcy Power. The following are arranged for:—"Edward Jenner," by Ernest Hart; "Sir James Simpson," by H. Laing Gordon; "Hermann von Helmholtz," by John G. McKendrick; "William Stokes," by Sir William Stokes; "Claude Bernard," by Michael Foster; "Sir Benjamin Brodie," by Timothy Holmes; "Thomas Sydenham," by J. F. Payne; "Vesalius," by C. Louis Taylor.



In writing letters for publication, correspondents should adopt a concise, but not abbreviated, style. They are requested to write on one side of the paper only. Letters, with or without a nom-de-plume,

Notice to Correspondents. *must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer. Queries should be written on separate pieces of paper, and the regulations printed under the sections to which they apply should be strictly observed.*

The P.A.T.A. Controversy.

SIR,—Before saying one word in reply to Mr. Beecham's charge that our efforts to maintain prices have failed I would like to repeat the two questions I put to him in my last letter, and which he has not as yet been good enough to answer. They are:—

(1) Does Mr. Beecham want to know the wishes of the trade as to what they consider living profits, and how they think those profits will be best secured?

(2) When he knows those wishes, will he act upon them?

I presume to press these questions because your readers are waiting for a definite pronouncement from Mr. Beecham on these two points, and because he himself has declared his willingness "to see the matter through" (*C. & D.*, page 708). Between Mr. Beecham and the trade it is not so much a question as to his opinion of the efficiency of the present plan of the P.A.T.A., but as to whether he is willing to take efficient steps of some sort or another to secure the trade "a living wage" for acting as distributors of his goods. The correspondence up to the present tends to show that he considers 10 per cent. on the first cost (this has generally to be divided between wholesaler and retailer) a sufficient profit. The few isolated letters and opinions from extreme cutters suggesting that, or a smaller, amount of profit Mr. Beecham refers to in respectful terms, and quotes them in your columns apparently as the essence of trading common-sense; whilst on the other hand communications from the legitimate trade, urging him to secure them "a just wage," he refers to as being "inspired," "of no value whatever," "costing the writers nothing to send them," and flatly tells them such communications "can do them no good." Mr. Beecham's attack upon the P.A.T.A. as an organisation is no answer to the two questions quoted. If he is prepared to ascertain what profit the vast majority of his distributors want, and decides to ensure it them, his attempt to prove that our work is a failure will provide him with no excuse for not doing as other firms have done before the P.A.T.A. existed—namely, to guarantee a profit by an individual scheme such as Mr. Elliman's. I repeat that Mr. Beecham has the power, either by co-operation with the P.A.T.A. or through an individual scheme of his own, to guarantee the trade adequate profit.

In order to excuse himself for not adding his articles to the protected list Mr. Beecham sends one of his men, not to find out whether our plan works well or not, but to obtain evidence, if possible, to prove that it is a failure. What does he do? He picks his town and his four shops. He knows that the proprietors of those shops are actively and openly fighting the P.A.T.A., and that they have publicly stated they are prepared to buy protected articles at retail prices and lose money on them. "Do I know what these firms are doing?" asks Mr. Beecham. Yes! during the last few weeks one of them has purchased P.A.T.A. articles—not from a Liverpool drug-store, nor from an Edinburgh drug-store, but from customers of that Edinburgh drug-store. There are over thirty thousand shops at which P.A.T.A. articles are being sold; and it is not a sign of weakness, but of an unlooked-for amount of success, that the firms opposing our prices number under twenty-five, and that those few are finding it necessary to buy P.A.T.A. goods in twos and threes at retail prices. Mr. Beecham forgets we have not yet completed two years' work. I am sorry Mr. Beecham, even if he could not see his way clear to help us, finds it necessary to go out of his way to attempt to damage the only organised attempt we, as chemists and his customers, have yet made to

stem the tide of unscrupulous and ruinous competition. He sneers at the importance of the articles already on our List, and in fairness I am bound to reply that upon many of those articles, insignificant as Mr. Beecham thinks they are, most of us make more profit in one month that we do at present on Mr. Beecham's pills in a year. Mr. Beecham himself thinks his attitude might appear vindictive towards the P.A.T.A., but adds that those who think so "must thank their Secretary for treating in the way he has done my efforts to turn selling at cost into a profit." I have carefully read through the correspondence, and fail to find one word I have written which has not been in the nature of perfectly fair and honest criticism. I make bold to say that in what I have written I have expressed the feelings, not only of my fellow-members of the P.A.T.A., but of the vast majority of the distributors of Mr. Beecham's pills. Mr. Beecham has a right to punish us for this in any way he thinks best; but I ask him not to let any personal feeling, either towards myself or the P.A.T.A., interfere with his reply to the two questions we have asked him. We all want to know definitely how we stand. Will Mr. Beecham consult, not the cutters only, but the great mass of the trade as to what profit they want, and will he ensure that profit (he can, if he so chooses), or does he wish us to understand that he wants no more of our postcards or expressions of opinion, for the simple reason that he has decided to throw in his lot with the cutters?

I am, &c.,

W. S. GLYN-JONES.

2 and 3 Stonecutter Street, London, E.C., November 15.

SIR,—I do not know whether Mr. Jones's latest evolution would be best described as a "double summersault" or a "double shuffle." Anyhow, his strange gyrations must be calculated to produce vertigo in some of the manufacturers who have placed themselves, more or less, under his guidance. One week he tells them "you mustn't," the next, "you may," and the next, "you mustn't" again. How long self-respecting firms will be content to be driven backwards and forwards and hither and thither at the word of command of Mr. Jones, or his Committee, remains to be seen. Month after month Mr. Jones declares that supplies of all P.A.T.A. articles will be withheld from every firm that sells any one of them below minimum prices. In spite of this, he volunteered the information, a fortnight ago, that we had done nothing clever in arranging for direct supplies of Munyon's remedies, for he declared that one of the ways by which the P.A.T.A. had, for months past, secured its objects was by arranging for these very individual agreements, "precisely as in the case of Messrs. Day and Munyon's remedies." The attempt which he makes to shuffle out of this is a specimen of sophistry even more shallow than that in which Mr. Jones commonly indulges. He generally takes care to write with very great caution, and he is about as skilful at a *double entendre* as any one I ever met with, but in this case he evidently did not expect to have to eat his words, and his language is as unmistakable as any one could wish. Let me again repeat his words:—

"If Mr. Day does not already know it, I will now tell him that one of the ways by which the P.A.T.A. secures its objects is by arranging for these very individual agreements; indeed, for months past firms on what Mr. Day calls our 'black-list' have been freely supplied by our various proprietors, provided in each case they gave an individual agreement to the particular proprietors to maintain the P.A.T.A. prices, *precisely as in the case of Messrs. Day and Munyon's Remedies.*"

Now, what was the nature of "the case of Messrs. Day and Munyon's remedies"? Mr. Jones says, in his last letter, that, although retail firms on the black-list were supplied with P.A.T.A. articles by the manufacturers, such firms "are not cutting any P.A.T.A. articles," but he cannot pretend that he believed that we also were "not cutting any P.A.T.A. articles." Yet he tells us that, "for months past," he has been arranging individual agreements "precisely as in the case of Messrs. Day and Munyon's remedies"! I neither overlooked, nor omitted to quote from his letter, his remark "Provided an individual agreement be given in each case." Of course an individual agreement was given in each case, "precisely as in the case of Messrs. Day and Munyon's remedies." To contend that his words mean "provided that an individual agreement be given in each case to all the manufacturers of all the articles upon the P.A.T.A. list" is

absurd, and imposes upon nobody. Will Mr. Jones tell us whether or not any firm in Great Britain has ever given such individual agreements to all the manufacturers of P.A.T.A. articles? He has the effrontery to say, with regard to the firms on the black-list who have been supplied by manufacturers, that "They are not cutting any P.A.T.A. articles; when they do so, all the proprietors will withhold their goods." Will Mr. Jones give 5*l.* to one of the London hospitals if I prove that statement to be false? I will give that sum if he proves it to be true. On Wednesday, October 27, an important meeting of manufacturers was held in London; will Mr. Jones deny that it was then understood that they should be at liberty to make individual agreements "precisely as in the case of Messrs. Day and Munyon's remedies"? On the Saturday following appeared his letter (stating that "one of the ways by which the P.A.T.A. secures its objects," &c.) which he now wishes to explain away. If he denies that there was any such understanding, how does he account for the fact that we received, immediately afterwards, a large number of letters from some of the most respectable and responsible manufacturers whose goods are on the P.A.T.A. list, offering to supply us with their goods, *without reference to our prices for other P.A.T.A. articles*, "precisely as in the case of Messrs. Day and Munyon's remedies." These offers now lie before me; most of them are word for word alike (it is evidently an agreed form), and some of them are printed, apparently for general distribution. These definite, simultaneous, and identical offers cannot be explained away. Either there was such an understanding as I have indicated, or these gentlemen deliberately conspired together (for there is obvious agreement) to betray their brethren. I absolutely refuse to believe the latter alternative to be the case, and if the former be the true explanation, how would any fair and honourable man characterise the statements upon the subject in Mr. Jones's last letter? Mr. Jones is in the habit of indulging freely in assertions, deductions, and suggestions which are either wholly or partially false, and when they are proved to be so he drops them as if they were of no manner of consequence. Does he ask for illustrations? I will give them. For many months past he has done his utmost to persuade his supporters that we have no stocks of P.A.T.A. articles, and cannot get any except by paying minimum prices to retail chemists. I have told him that we have bought thousands of pounds' worth of these goods since we were put upon the "black-list," that a large proportion of these were still in stock, and I suggested a means of verifying this statement. Does he jump at the suggestion? Nothing of the sort; he evades anything like proof as if it were poison. He simply makes some futile remark about "reckless buying." What I want him to do is to deal with facts, hard facts, and I care not how much he indulges in his "broad grins," or in any of the various remarks which seem to tickle his fancy. If he persists in making random statements, and then runs away from anything like proof, his letters cannot have any weight with reasonable persons. Look, for instance, at his positive assertion that "very few of our undersold P.A.T.A. articles reach our ordinary customers." The statement seemed to me to be almost too puerile to refer to in my last letter. I nevertheless asked him some pertinent questions respecting it, not one of which he replies to, except the question "What does he mean?" which he answers by repeating the ridiculous statement, "They are bought in by us!" I have told him that about 65,000 persons visit our shops every week. Does Mr. Jones expect your readers to believe that he sends 65,000 of his emissaries to our shops every week? In that case, what has he done with our "ordinary customers"? To whom do we sell all the other goods which we get rid of? Do his spies buy them in also? Or if all our ordinary customers have not been stopped off by some mysterious means (best known to Mr. Jones), do these 65,000 people require "very few" P.A.T.A. articles? Or do they refuse to buy them of us because our prices are too low? I have already said, and I repeat, that the statement is as false as it is absurd. Of the same character is the assurance which he gave to inquirers at his meetings, that if anyone on the black-list got hold of any P.A.T.A. articles he would "buy them up in a week." Many weeks have elapsed since he made this statement, and he has neither bought up our stocks (though he boasts that he has an "army" at his command for the purpose) nor has he

explained why he has not done so. This talk of "buying up" is simply "bosh." Mr. Beecham tells us that four firms in a northern town buy 10,000*l.* worth of his pills every year, and that they are all cutting P.A.T.A. articles. Mr. Jones must, therefore, according to his promise, "buy them up in a week." Now, if their united sales of all the 140 P.A.T.A. articles (or whatever the number may be) only equal that of this one kind of pill, Mr. Jones will have to pay away 10,000*l.* per annum to these four firms alone. Apply the same process to the whole of Great Britain, and it will be seen what vast sums must be forthcoming in order to fulfil Mr. Jones's boast, and even then it would only be like trying to fill a sieve with water. Meanwhile, the P.A.T.A. would be losing many thousands of pounds a year, which these cutting firms would pocket with pleasure. The officials of the P.A.T.A. are, of course, deeply interested in maintaining its existence, and, doubtless, they are rewarded in proportion to their zeal and ingenuity; but their remuneration must be seriously imperilled if the P.A.T.A. funds are to be thus drained for the benefit of the "cutters." The "buying-up" phrase is a sham and a delusion—that is, if anybody believes in it.

Once more, I repeat that the P.A.T.A. has been unable to carry out any of its objects. It professes to maintain minimum prices, but they are not maintained; it professes to cut off supplies, but they are not cut off; and Mr. Jones professes to buy up stocks, but they are not bought up. Let Mr. Jones prove these statements to be incorrect if he can. I could add much to the information given by Mr. Beecham as to the cutting of prices of P.A.T.A. articles, even by those who loudly profess the warmest sympathy with the P.A.T.A.; but I refrain, for I have, once more, trespassed too much upon your space. If, however, Mr. Jones finally refuses to deal straightforwardly with the points at issue, I cannot see that any good purpose will be served by further correspondence upon the subject, nor do I think that anything else he may say will have the slightest weight with fair and reasonable people. The points at issue appear to me to be embodied in the following questions:—

(1) Was the P.A.T.A.'s scheme for cutting off supplies of *all* P.A.T.A. articles from any firm who should sell *any one* of them below minimum prices its chief distinguishing feature, or was it not?

(2) Is it or is it not a fact that large quantities of P.A.T.A. goods have been supplied to firms on the black-list by manufacturers (other than Munyons) without any reference whatever to the prices at which such firms sold other P.A.T.A. articles?

(3) If goods were so supplied, was Mr. Jones aware of it, or was he not, either "for months past" or at any time previous to writing his last letter?

(4) If he was aware of it, did he treat it as a breach of the "rules" of the P.A.T.A., or did he approve of it, or did he wink at it?

(5) If goods have been supplied by numerous manufacturers, as suggested in No. 2, were these goods supplied on a basis essentially the same as, or wholly different from, that on which Munyons supplied their remedies?

(6) If the conditions were practically the same, was a request similar to that addressed to Munyons served upon these other manufacturers?

(7) Were Munyons supplying several firms on the black-list besides Day's Southern Drug Company, and upon the same terms, and if so, why were they not called upon to cut off supplies from such firms as well as from Day's?

(8) Does Mr. Jones still contend that we have been unable to obtain large supplies of P.A.T.A. articles? If so, will he agree to test the quantities at present in stock, and to pay a substantial sum to a London hospital if we have, say, 1,000*l.* worth in stock, provided that I give a similar amount to such a charity if we have less than that value in hand?

(9) Will Mr. Jones prove his statement that "very few of our undersold P.A.T.A. articles reach our ordinary customers"?

If Mr. Jones will give fair and reasonable replies to the questions involved in the points at issue, instead of dealing in vague generalities, he may clear himself of the imputation of evasion and shuffling which now rests upon him.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

WILLIAM DAY.

Southampton, Nov. 16.

SIR,—I do not believe that the case of the gentleman who does a good business, and only sells 200 patents per year is exceptional: I believe that in large towns there are many similar cases. The patent-trade is practically in the hands of grocers and stores now, and I think chemists ought to congratulate themselves upon this fact. As we already live without 90 per cent. of the patent-trade, we ought to be able to live without 100 per cent. of it. It would be helpful to know what proportion of business done by chemists in different parts of the country is done in patents. Chemists might send in brief statements from the various districts. They need not sign their names if they merely mention the district, and as you do not appear to have space for long letters from chemists, they might keep their statements within two or three lines.

Dumfries, November 13.

JAMES REID.

SIR,—I would like to impress on Mr. Beecham the desirability of his reversing his order of procedure (if he really desires to meet the wishes of the trade), and, instead of diligently seeking reasons why he should not protect his articles, take the experience of those who have joined the P.A.T.A. as proprietors.

A circular received this morning from the proprietors of Hall's wine contains the following:—" . . . On the subject of cutting we may say that we are more than satisfied that it pays us to support the ordinary shopkeeper in a fair minimum profit. In maintaining this position we have lost the goodwill of some of the large co-operative societies, but our loss in this direction has been more than made up by the increased sales of the retail trade."

Food for reflection for Mr. Beecham. Does he not believe

Does he fear that he would be treated to such a gratuitous advertisement as the proprietors of Scott's pills received when they had the courage to adopt P.A.T.A. methods? Let him ask their experience since then.

Mr. Beecham will be a great acquisition to our Association, and will considerably strengthen his own hands and ours when he decides to throw in his lot with us. We shall then hear much less of opposition, and if I mistake not, even the bitterest opponents on the black-list will be glad to be able to make an honourable retreat.

Here in Buxton cutting has been keen enough to be sure, but times are mending as the P.A.T.A. list increases, and this applies all over the land; what a power for good the P.A.T.A. has already been in thousands of towns! Our cause is ably championed by Mr. Glyn-Jones, who is doing more to improve matters than any other man. If Mr. Beecham is still dissatisfied, let him try the fair plan adopted by Sanitas Company for testing the feeling of the trade. It is as absurd to suppose that even a small minority of the trade is against an improvement in profits as it is to suppose that assistants would refuse higher salaries. But there is this vital difference between the two suppositions—Mr. Beecham can make the alteration in one case with little trouble to himself, while in the other he could do very little by individual effort.

Yours faithfully,

W. P. (12/41.)

Mr. Fred Reynolds favours us with his views on this controversy graphically. Mr. Reynolds's sketch is suggested by the recent move of the Sanitas Company. Sanitas is inclined to come within the fold, and Mr. Glyn-Jones is holding the gate open for him. He is consulting some chemists on the



that the public would pay 8½d., 1s. and 2s. 6d. for what he advertises at a guinea a box? He did not endanger his sales when he, with a few strokes of his pen on January 1 last, advanced his terms to all. Before then I cared little whether I had the pills in stock or not, but when he advanced wholesale terms 3 per cent. I advanced retail from 12 to 20 per cent., and rarely do I miss selling. I keep better stock, and sell more, because I have no repugnance in handling the pills. But how long can this last unless I have such protection for this article as the P.A.T.A. affords?

way. Meanwhile the anti-P.A.T.A. dogs are trying to frighten him off.

SIR,—I think the most enthusiastic supporters of the P.A.T.A. can only claim that it has been a partial success. It is no doubt true, as Mr. Beecham points out, that several P.A.T.A. articles are being cut in various places. I have not, however, heard from any district of a failure of Messrs. Elliman's plan. If Mr. Beecham is in earnest, let him try their system.

Yours, &c.

November 17.

PROVINCIAL. (13/40.)

Mr. Hyslop Explains the Poem.

SIR.—It seems to me that the lines of your correspondent "H. F." in your last week's issue ventilate some very important notions that will amply repay a little further notice.

Poets want exponents: a need that arises not alone from abstruseness of metaphor in their own utterance, but also from the growing incapacity in so-called "readers" to comprehend anything, in these hurried times, but the commonest kind of prose.

Would you, therefore, generously grant me space to commentate on the text, and briefly set forth what I think to be the exact point—sharp and piercing though it be?

As to verse 1 nothing difficult occurs except one word which is pure Greek, although printed in English, "*Kûdos*," line 4. *Kûdos* equals Latin *dêcus* fame (in a good sense), that "reputation" which is better than wealth, if only because it is the surest way of getting wealth and using it well.

Then line 5, "taught," is reflective (*s'instruire*) = "taught himself."

Verse 2 simply apostrophises verse 1, so as to make it agree with and settle down in the "stomach" of one's sense.

Verses 3 and 4 are simply recapitulatory, but in a parallel view of thought; the last line of all giving in brief the great secret of the whole.

Verse 3, line 3, "crabbed," = "grabbed"; the verb "crab" and the verb "grab" have one common origin Sanscrit, "grabh" = to seize or grasp with avidity, and get your fingers bitten. Then comes out the exact point which some of us have felt—

"The finding out it wouldn't go right,
The knowing at last that it couldn't go right,
The thought that one's fought—
like a child

(Not like a man at all)."

Sir, as long as I can remember—fifty years now—the ordinary commercial traveller, especially the commission agent pure and simple, has been the pest and the ruin of chemists and druggists. The persuasive powers of lady-like dandies that come round as angels of light, seeking whom they may devour, are simply indescribable, and their wiles unfathomable. There used to be many in the business who could successfully fight these—fight like a man—and kick them out. They learnt the lesson, and, during a good apprenticeship, learnt to know their own wants beforehand, and to resent with a proper scorn the dictation of any man, especially when £ s. d. was his evident motive; but of late years new comers into the business are *minus* this discipline, and the evil grows apace.

The rising man is obliged to obtain a certain bulk of knowledge; he is afraid of hard work, and therefore they don't apprentice him; he is afraid of any hardship except in some sort of a gaming sense—football, cycling, &c.; he attends some sort of collegiate instruction, and, having at last got through his exam., he comes forth laden with the burden of his acquisitions—bladder-like—carrying as well as he can all that has been poured into him, but totally undisciplined for life's battle, and unacquainted with the wiles of traders who want his money, and care nothing for his life. He does not get on, spends his miserable time in vilifying his alma mater, and all besides who have really wished him well, and becomes the easy prey of quackery, quack medicines, quack baby's-food, quack soap, and plays false with the honourable name that the Legislature has given him. Quack associations and quack modes of doing business more and more hedge him in, and what can be the end thereof?

I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,

39 Church Street, Marylebone, N.W. J. C. HYSLOP.
November 15.

A Charge of Plagiarism.

SIR,—Many years ago, when I first introduced the now well-known "Sanitas" disinfecting fluid to public notice, I described, in a paper read before the Society of Arts, some of the research-work which had led me to the discovery, and I entitled that paper "Nature's Hygiene." Later on I published a fuller account of the same investigation in a book which I also entitled "Nature's Hygiene" (Baillière & Co.),

and which is now in its third edition. I was, therefore, surprised and annoyed to observe that the Formalin Hygienic Company (Limited) are issuing pamphlets by "A Medical Expert" entitled "Nature's Own Hygiene," a publication to which you made reference (page 722) in your issue of November 6. It is not necessary for me to state anything here relative to my copyright in the title, but emanating, as the publication of which I complain does, from a rival firm of disinfectant manufacturers, their action can only be described as lacking good taste, and savours even of unfairness. Competition I do not object to, but this plagiarism is another and a very objectionable matter, to which I invite your readers' attention.

Yours faithfully,

C. T. KINGZETT,

Managing Director, the Sanitas Company (Limited).
Bethnal Green, E., November 15.

Chemists' Fire Insurance.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Richard Blair's letter in your issue of November 6 (page 742) relative to the insurance companies' increased tariff, we were threatened with the same hardship, and as we considered it unjust and unreasonable, determined to resist it. We have pleasure in informing the chemists and druggists of Ireland through your journal, that the Commercial Insurance Company of Ireland (Limited) have not raised their rates. We have transferred our policies to them at the old rates.

Yours faithfully,

EDMONDSON & HOBY.

Rathmines, Dublin, November 11.

"Preparations of Pepsin."

SIR,—In reply to Dr. McWalter, I would say that the object of my short paper was to give the results of experiments which went to prove that an alcoholic solution of pepsin is not an objectionable form for its administration, because the alcohol present, which prevents the pepsin acting in a concentrated form, rapidly diffuses from the stomach, and leaves the pepsin to do its work. I had no object in determining the amount of soluble peptone which diffused through the wetted animal membrane, but it was in all probability equal in each case, and would not alter the results I sought to determine.

I quite agree with Dr. McWalter that "much remains to be done with reference to the action of pepsin," and trust he will see his way to further prosecute the subject and give us the results at the next Conference meeting.

Faithfully yours,

14 Hardman Street, CHARLES SYMES.
Liverpool, November 17.

The Irish Suppositories.

SIR,—I could not but wonder whether any one who took part in the discussion respecting the suppositories in the prescription submitted by the President at the last meeting of the Irish Society had really tried to make them. It is easy to discuss and arrive at theoretical results and decisions, but a far greater practical result would be attained if those who are so ready to discuss and to decide were to try. I take exception to both decisions. In the first place it is possible to make twelve 15 gr. suppositories out of the prescription, with simply ol. theobrom. q.s., and I submit the result to you, "the proof of the pudding being in the eating." I simply used dry ext. bellod. and ol. theobrom., q.s., and mixed in the usual way, and encountered no difficulty whatever, of course not interfering with the hazeline, but using it to rub up the other ingredients before adding the oil. Secondly, it is ridiculous for anybody to introduce into a prescription another medicinal substance, such as proposed (zinc oxide), without getting the consent of the prescriber; and no mention is made of this. I write this because I think it important that neither of the above decisions, emanating, as they do, from a learned body of men, should go unchallenged until verified.

Yours, &c.,

Southport.

H. ROBERTS.

[The dozen suppositories which Mr. Roberts sends us are very good indeed, but they have no odour of hazeline. Does our correspondent mean to say that each suppository contains 6½ minims of hazeline, and that there was no volatilisation while making the batch? ED. C. & D.]

E

LEGAL QUERIES.

We do not give legal opinions by post. Information regarding most legal matters in connection with pharmacy will be found in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, and in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," and Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty."

257/63. *Wordos*.—Registration of trade-marks.—See *C. & D. DIARY*, 1897, page 210.

251/6. *R. D.*—The unqualified young man who opens a "pharmacy" will probably get fined.

261/8. *J. S. S.*—The various arrangements made between yourself and landlords have been so complicated with disputes that we cannot offer you any useful advice. It looks as if you have some sort of a case for damages, but it will pay you better to attend to your regular business. If, however, you are thirsting for law go and state the case to the most respectable solicitor you know, and ask him to cross-examine you on it before he advises.

260/4. *W. K.*—It is not the case that a chemist is liable to a penalty of 100% for supplying a solution of morphia for hypodermic injection.

1/68. *Apothecary*.—A school board has consented to accept certificates for non-attendance signed by a chemist. The certificate states that "sufficient reason exists for the absence of . . . from school, and that he will probably not be able to attend for . . . , as he is suffering from . . ." It has to be signed by "medical attendant." We are not surprised to hear that some of the local doctors object to this, and we are told they are suggesting a prosecution under the Apothecaries Act. We are asked if signing the certificate constitutes an infringement under the circumstances? Certainly not, by itself, but the certificate would no doubt be a piece of strong corroborative evidence. It would show that at least the chemist had judged of disease by its symptoms, and it would only be necessary to prove, in addition, that medicine for that disease had been supplied.

4/37. *Subrina*.—We do not think the pulmonic label renders the medicine liable to medicine-stamp duty. The comforter one certainly does, as you declare that it "will afford instant relief for all the distressing ailments of the bowels."

255/44. *Reltub*.—An analytical chemist who announced himself as such for the *bona-fide* purposes of his profession would not be interfered with; but if any person not registered as a chemist and druggist used the designation for carrying on a pharmaceutical business, he would probably be sued, and then would certainly be fined 5% with another 5% if he sold a poison.

256/2. *F. J. C.* asks, Is it legal to use the name "Vaseline Camphor-ice" for his own preparation made with the Chesebrough vaseline? Not unless you have the consent of the owners of the trade-mark. The law says that it is illegal for any other person than the registered owner to use a registered trade-mark.

3/15. *Kino*.—Registered dentists can claim exemption from all jury service.

56/36. *Lemo*.—A limited company is bound to exhibit its title, with the word limited as the last word thereof, outside its registered office, and on all orders, invoices, &c. The penalty for not doing so may be 5% a day. Anyone may prosecute.

2/11. *Theine*.—If you can satisfy a court that the company made a contract with you which they have broken, you can get damages for the breach if you can prove you have suffered any. But with only a verbal agreement to rely on, it would be a risky proceeding to commence an action.

3/1. *Foreign*.—Unless there are any special reasons that we do not know of, you are entitled to a month's notice as a chemist's assistant. We do not advise you to sue your employers—at least, not until you have properly represented your claim to them. You are not at liberty to leave at mid-day on the day when your term expires.

6/47. *J. W. K.*—We are frequently being asked whether it is safe to use a certain title. The answer needs so much qualification that we cannot be frequently repeating it. We refer you to answer to "Antipyrin," in *C. & D.*, page 678, October 23; to "Cinnamon," page 604, October 9; and to editorial article in *C. & D.*, page 54, July 10, all in this volume.

6/45. *L. B.*—We do not quite gather what you want to know. You are not required to know personally the writer of a prescription in which a poison in part 1 of the Schedule is ordered before you dispense it. If you copy it in your book with the name of the person to whom you sell it, you are not required to label it poison. This question was the first raised under the Pharmacy Act, and was carried to the High Court. See "Pharmacy and Poison Laws," page 71.

9/67. *G. H. F.*—If the medicine is an entire drug you can recommend it for the relief of disease without incurring liability to medicine stamp duty. If the title of a medicine is a registered trade mark, it implies that you claim a proprietary right. That would involve liability to medicine stamp duty if the medicine is a compound.

254/71. *Justice* (an Irish correspondent) asks if an apprentice who has served part of his time with a qualified person prior to the latter becoming a member of a limited company, can claim damages from his master or from the company, seeing that the Council cannot accept the certificate of the company? The answer to this question must be somewhat vague, for we can never prophesy. But if in such a case as is supposed, the apprentice remains in the sole employment of the pharmacist, the latter could, it seems to us, give a legal certificate. He must not allow himself to be transferred to the company. It is right to say that this opinion is not that which is held in influential quarters in Ireland. In any case we should think it extremely doubtful if damages could be obtained from the master, unless any specific false representations could be established. If two persons enter into an illegal arrangement, one cannot as a rule claim damages from the other for the consequences.

7/8. *Byng*.—We do not give formula for coloured fires, because it is illegal for chemists to make them, unless they have separate premises specially licensed for the manufacture of explosives.

5/57. *Barosma*, who executed a deed of assignment for the benefit of his creditors a few months ago, quotes an advertisement which the trustee has inserted in a local paper, calling on creditors who have not signed to do so at once in order to share in the dividend. He asks if it is legal to insert such an advertisement, and how it affects him as regards his creditors in the future? We do not know of any case exactly on all fours with this advertisement of a deed of assignment for the benefit of creditors, but we should think that the jury, who are the judges of the question of libel or no libel, might possibly hold the same to be a libel. Such an advertisement would not afford any protection to our correspondent, as any of his creditors who have not executed the deed can sue him at any future time for any indebtedness to them. Moreover, we do not think such an advertisement is necessary for the protection of the trustee.

12/67. *Diaphtherin*.—One does not escape income-tax by converting his business into a limited company, unless by so doing he reduces his total income.

10/59. *H. F. D.*—Your scheme of offering shares in your business to your customers is not practicable except by registration under the Joint-stock Companies Act. You would thereby make each shareholder who accepted a partner, and his probable profit would not pay for the responsibility. Moreover, an unincorporated partnership of more than twenty persons is illegal.

10/70. *H. L. W.*—There is nothing illegal in your stating that a certain person had chicken-pox. The illegality comes in if, in addition to your diagnosing chicken-pox you selected and supplied medicines for it. Then you would be acting as an apothecary. Read article on Medical Law in *C. & D.* October 30 last.

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

We reply to our subscribers and their employes only; queries must, therefore, be authenticated by the name and address of the subscriber. When

Notice to Querists.

more than one query is sent write each on a separate piece of paper. When a sample accompanies a query full particulars regarding the origin and use of the sample must be given, and the name of the querist should be placed on the sample. Queries are not replied to by post.

253/10. *W. H. H.*—The small piece of plant you send is not sufficient for identification, although judging from the decussate arrangement of the leaves it probably belongs to the *Labiatae*. At the same time we do not think it can have caused your cats' deaths, as the feline instinct is so keen that they would give a poisonous plant a wide berth.

262/18. *B. H. S.*—You must experiment with the "Starch-improver" yourself; we indicated the ingredients and probable formula, but beyond that did not profess to go.

260/71. *A.*—(1) **Brass-polish.**—See note on page 744, *C. & D.*, November 6, 1897. (2) **Pomade Hongroise** :—

Powdered Castile soap (white) ...	3½ oz.
Glycerine ...	3 oz.
Mucilage of acacie ...	10 oz.
Water ...	6 oz.
White wax ...	9 oz.
Perfume ...	q.s.

Dilute the mucilage with the water, and rub up the soap with the mixture. Shred the wax and place in a large basin with the glycerine. Add the soap-mixture, and heat in a water-bath till smooth. Then add the perfume, and bottle.

262/51. *Ezeabr.*—We can hardly teach the art of making Safety-matches in the space at our disposal, but if you will refer to "Thorpe's Dictionary of Applied Chemistry," under matches (in vol. ii.), you will find copious information, and hundreds of formulæ.

261/42. *H. E. S.*—Your sample of **Gout-cure** consists largely of powdered gentian and chiretta, with some other vegetable matter which we cannot identify.

261/53. *G. G. G.*—**Powder for Preventing Abortion in Cows.**—(1) A whole powder would contain ʒiss. of camphor with ʒiiss. Armenian bole. We reproduce the directions :—"When first symptoms appear one powder is to be given twice daily and afterwards thrice weekly. As a preventive, one to be given thrice weekly." (2) In case of epidemics of "calf-slipping," which are now thought to be due to a bacillus, disinfectants are indicated. We would be inclined to try the effect of a formalin fumigation. Carbolic lotions and solutions of permanganate of potash have been recommended for local application.

261/44. *C. P. W.*—**Non-drying Pitch.**—This is a mixture of pitch and coal-tar.

257/48. *Inquirer.*—The homœopathic powder for skin-affections does not give any other reactions than those for sugar of milk. If you consider the probable high dilution of the contained drug you will appreciate the analytical difficulties presented.

2/6. *Cotswold.*—To make concentrated **Weed-killer** (for diluting 1-25 water) use 1 lb. white arsenic, 2 lbs. crystal carbonate of soda, to 4 gals. of boiling water, then colour with aniline blue.

58/6. *Gloucester.*—It will be better to stick to a simple iron preparation for your **Amenorrhœa-mixture**, and avoid such things as rue and pennyroyal, the active emmenagogue action of the latter requiring cautious administration.

253/2. *Inquirer.*—We do not know a combined toning and fixing bath known as Vogel's.

253/1. *Dexter.*—The meal contains large quantities of arsenic. There is no doubt that the success of these rat-catchers lies in the method they have of baiting the vermin with plain meal for a few nights, and then, when the animals

have got to know where to find it, substituting arsenical meal.

259/71. *G. D. Coy.*—We should hardly have thought your formula required a preservative; if you find it does, use a few drops of formalin.

259/59. *Photo.*—Inquire of Messrs. George Houghton & Son, 89 High Holborn, E.C., who will probably give you all the information about the camera you require.

258/38. *F. C.*—**Egg-julep.**—There is a good formula in *C. & D.*, September 25, 1897, page 535.

20/10/97. *Octo.*—We have always found the formula for **petroleum emulsion** given in the *DIARY*, 1897, satisfactory. Will you try another sample of heavy petroleum oil? It should be perfectly odourless, and reduce the proportion somewhat, as your customer takes probably a bigger dose than need be. Much depends upon the selection of the petroleum oil, as to which see the paper by Mr. F. C. J. Bird in our issue of August 14.

41/10. *H. H. M.*—The old-fashioned emp. meliloti would be a very suitable non-poisonous plaster for children.

259/58. *X. Y. Z.*—(1) The electric method of extracting teeth does not make any difference in regard to the ease or otherwise of extraction. (2) There is no danger attached to the method. (3) Inquire at Maw's for the apparatus.

245/19. *Bird-seed.*—The Food for Thrushes in a state of nature consists of snails, insects, and worms, with various berries, such as holly and mistletoe, according to the season. Ants' eggs is a food given them when in captivity, in addition to any of the above procurable.

243/57. *G. R. H.*—**Dark Green Sack-marking Ink** for use with stencil.—Make first a solution by boiling together 2 oz. each of shellac and borax in a pint of water, and then dissolving in it 4 oz. of common gum; a sufficiency of a mixture of ultramarine and chrome-yellow is now mixed in till sufficiently thick to be usable with stencil-plate. Aniline dyes are not suitable for this purpose.

258/13. *H. E. F.*—**Shampoo-powder** :—

Sodii bicarb. ...	5iv.
Sodii biborat. ...	5iv.
Pulv. saponis ...	5iv.
Pulv. eucumæ ...	3j.
Ol. geranii ...	mxx.
Ol. verbenæ ...	m.v.

M.

Weigh up into ¾-oz. packets.

260/14. *D. S. B.*—**Castration-ointment**, as used by veterinary surgeons.—A frequently-used preparation consists of—

Tereb. venet. ...	5iss.
P. cupri. acet. ...	5ss.
Adipis ...	5vj.

M.

262/22. *N. E. R.*—**Erasmus Wilson's Hair-wash.**—There are many formulæ for this, most of them probably genuine prescriptions of Sir Erasmus Wilson. Here is a formula for a cheap preparation :—

Liq. ammoniæ ...	5vj.
Ol. amygd. ...	5vj.
Aq. mellis ...	5j.
Spt. rosmar. ...	5j.
Aq. rosæ ad ...	5vj.

M.S.A.

5/12. *J. N. C.*—We should be very reluctant to advise you as to the purchase of a business even if we knew all about it, and knew you personally. But our advice given on the data you furnish would be perfectly valueless, and might be misleading.

2/18. *Oxon.*—**Fluid Nitrite.**—A substitute for spt. æth nit., said to be stable when mixed with water. Can you tell me what this preparation is? [Most probably a solution of sodium nitrite, 2 per cent. in water, and glycerine, with a trace of paraldehyde to flavour.]

245/62. *Information*.—We could not prescribe in the case you describe, as you do not give sufficiently full particulars. What seems to be needed is a good tonic, such as liq. arsenici hydrochlor. mij ., and tr. ferri perchlor. mxx ., in 2 oz of water thrice daily.

245/13. *Cera Alba*.—There are no very distinctive features about your mixture to enable us to construct a probable formula.

258/18. *Chemicus*.—(1) The opinion in regard to the presence of nitrites in potable waters has not recently undergone change; traces are suspicious, and waters showing them are condemned. This does not mean that even a comparatively large amount of nitrate condemns a water. See the article by Mr. D. B. Dott in this issue. (2) No licence is required for the use of a retort or still for analytical purposes.

258/36. *D. H.*—Solex Cascara is made by Messrs. Fletcher, Fletcher & Co.

260/27. *Hibernia*.—If you can wait a little while you will be able to get from us the best guide for such prescribing as chemists and druggists are compelled to do that has yet been published. Our book will be published at the beginning of next year.

1/8. *Salop*.—(1) Little Liver-pills—The following will yield a better pill than the formula you submit:—

Aloin.	gr. $\frac{1}{10}$
Jalapin.	gr. $\frac{1}{10}$
Podophyllin.	gr. $\frac{1}{10}$
Ext. belladonnæ ...	gr. $\frac{1}{20}$
Ext. nuc. vomicæ ...	gr. $\frac{1}{20}$
Oleoresinæ capsici ...	gr. $\frac{1}{20}$

Ft. pil. j.

(2) The following modification of your first formula for Cough-mixture is less wasteful than your method of proceeding, but yields an opaque mixture:—

Tolu balsam	℥iv.
Peru balsam	℥ij.
Storax	℥ij.
Cochineal (bruised) ...	℥iv.
Tartarated antimony ...	gr. xvj.
Chloroform	℥xl.
Mucilage of acacia ...	℥iv.
Rectified spirit	℥vii.
Syrup to	℥lxxx.

Macerate the tolu, styrax, and Peru balsams and the cochineal in the spirit for four days, with frequent agitation, and filter. Then, having mixed the mucilage with 10 oz. of syrup in a bottle, add this tincture and well shake. Now add the antimony and chloroform and the remainder of the syrup, and shake till dissolved.

Doses.—Adult, ℥ij.; children of 12, ℥j.; children of 3, mxxv . Three or four times daily in a little water.

246/48. *Saddleback*.—We have succeeded in making a nice *Harness-paste* with the following modification of the formula you sent:—

Yellow wax	Oz. 6
Mutton suet	2
Soft soap	2

Melt together and add—

Moist sugar	Oz. 6
Lamp-black	2½
Prussian-blue	½
Turpentine	3

Rub in a warm mortar till perfectly smooth.

2/71. *Subscriber*.—Salisbury Treatment.—See *C. & D.* September 26, 1896, page 506, and October 3, 1896, page 533.

3/16. *Ebor*.—Use pulv. croci gr. ij. in place of tr. croci in *Neuralgia-powders* (*C. & D.* DIARY, 1896), or give simply 8 gr. phenacetin, which, being a pure drug, can be recommended freely, without requiring a stamp.

4 63. *Bism. Carb.*—Papier-maché is made by grinding paper with milk of lime and a little glue-size. This is done in pulping-machines, but you could produce a good pulp in

small quantities by vigorous work with a pestle and mortar. If you get it too wet drain the pulp on a framework of linen. The pulp thus made is suitable for pressing into moulds, and may be afterwards baked and finished by varnishing.

Many more replies are held over until next week.

INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor will be obliged for replies to the following from any who can furnish the information.

11/19. Nicholson's manicure files.

9/61. Maker of sphymographic varnish.

11/69. Where can window decoration trimmings be obtained on hire?

12/34. Round glass letter-weights, where obtainable?

Coming Events.

We insert notices of association and society meetings in this section free if they are sent to us, on postcards, by the Wednesday of the week before the meetings are to be held.

Friday, November 19.

Leeds. Meeting of dealers in photographic-materials at the Grand Restaurant, Boar Lane, at 8 P.M., to discuss the P.A.T.A.

Saturday, November 20.

Pharmaceutical Football Club v. Hon. Artillery F.C., at the headquarters of the latter club, Finsbury. Kick-off at 3 P.M.

Monday, November 22.

Scarborough. Meeting of the trade at Albemarle Hotel, 3 P.M. to discuss the P.A.T.A. and form local Association.

Tuesday, November 23.

Royal Photographic Society, 12 Hanover Square, W., at 8 P.M. "Photographs of the Optical Projections in Space Produced by the Aerial Graphoscope"; "Probable Projection Lighting-flashes" (illustrated by experiments and photographs), by Mr. Eric Stuart Bruce, M.A.

Annual Smoking-concert of the Pharmaceutical Cricket and Football Club in the Holborn Restaurant, at 8 P.M., Professor Collie in the chair. Tickets, 1s. 6d. each, to be obtained from Mr. T. Edward Lescher, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C.

Wednesday, November 24.

Imperial College of Chemistry and Pharmacy. Smoking-concert at The Talbot, 64 London Wall, E.C.

Nottingham and Notts Chemists' Association, Albert Hotel, Derby Road, at 9 P.M. Subject: "The Proposed Amendment to the Pharmacy Act." Discussion to be opened by Mr. A. E. Beilby.

Brighton Junior Association of Pharmacy, Newburg Hall, at 9 P.M. Short speeches on "Sharp Practice."

Thursday, November 25.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 8.30 P.M. Paper and Demonstration on "Urine-analysis," by Mr. E. W. Lucas, F.C.S.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association, Grand Hotel, at 8.30 P.M. Subjects: (1) "Provincial Pharmaceutical Organisation"; (2) "The Modified Examination, or Otherwise"; (3) "The Necessity of a Company Exhibiting the Name of the Pharmacist who Transacts the Sale of a Drug." Discussion to be opened by Mr. R. D. Gibbs.

Aberdeen Junior Chemists' Association. Cinderella Dance, Bonaccord Hotel, at 8.30 P.M.

Friday, November 26.

Pharmaceutical Society, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 8.30 P.M. Proceedings: Inaugural Sessional Address, "The New Dualism in Chemistry," by James Walker, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.S.E., Professor of Chemistry in University College, Dundee; Additions to Library and Museum.